

Earth First!

Eostar 1996

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Hoedown at Hoxie Griffin

The Hoxie Griffin timber sale is a unique area dominated by old-growth sugar pine, incense cedar, and Douglas fir, and is an old "Section 318" sale released to be cut by the new timber salvage rider. Located 16 miles east of Ashland, Oregon, the sale area sits at 5,200 feet and is a vital wildlife corridor connecting the eastern end of the Siskiyou Mountains and the southern tip of the Cascade Range. The ancient forests within the Hoxie Griffin sale are some of the few remaining stands of old trees in the area known as Indian Plateau.

The Croman Corporation is planning to obtain 2.8 million board feet from the sale, which encompasses 255 acres. The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) asked the BLM to reduce the sale volume to a third of the original extraction plan because the area contained critical habitat for the northern spotted owl.

In an attempt to appear reasonable, the BLM ordered that logging occur only when the snowpack was over 21 inches, in order to reduce erosion. Despite this, machinery has torn the fragile soils in sale unit 10.

Croman's assault on this land has met opposition from the beginning. The Siskiyou Forest Defenders have waged a campaign of direct action in defense of the ancient trees on Indian plateau. On January 24, when Croman began logging, activists greeted the loggers in three feet of snow, forming a blockade across the road. Workers for Croman drove a skidder through the human chain, injuring one activist. The ancient trees began falling that day.

Several days later we returned with 50 activists prepared to defy the closure the BLM had instituted. With two black flags waving, and wearing masks, the activists marched toward the first BLM blockade. Confident, the officers waited for us, their arms crossed. Outnumbering them almost 10-to-1, the Siskiyou Forest Defenders walked right by the stunned law enforcement. We began the five-mile journey toward the units as snow started falling. The law enforcement drove by us



Another beautiful winter morning unfolds in the Oregon woods.

and set up another blockade three miles down the road. When we arrived, a BLM officer approached us and announced that only five of us could walk in to "witness" the cut. We agreed to their plan, but before they could react we all walked through the second blockade. The snow became a blizzard and we went into unit 10 and took over the loader. One activist locked to the steering wheel and 15 others climbed onto it. With some shouting and dialogue the head BLM ranger admitted that if the BLM could, they would do the sale differently. Words of comfort. We decided that we would leave only if we could escort the loggers out.

continued on page 27

Fear and Loathing on the "Repeal the Rider" Campaign Trail

BY JUSTIN TIME

Squawk! Repeal the Rider. Squawk! Repeal the Rider. Squawk! Repeal the Rider. After parroting the repeal line, raising log truck loads of money with "look what those horrible Republicans have done now" emergency fund appeals and, as usual, firing up false hopes among grassroots activists, it's deal-making time for Gang Green.

Sure enough, a substitute Salvage Logging Bill was introduced by Washington Senator Patty Murray—touted by the big greens (and some ancient forest groups) as the equivalent of, if not "better" than, full repeal.

Say what you will about full repeal. I for one, thought it a quixotic quest from the outset. But, it was a grassroots effort. Green candidate for the US Senate from Oregon, Michael Donnelly, got wild applause at every rally he spoke to during last November's campaign when he stated he would introduce such legislation. Wild Rockies activist Jennifer Ferenstein from Missoula actually wrote the bill and Representative Elizabeth Furse of Oregon introduced it and garnered some 120-plus cosponsors. Save America's Forest convinced Senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey to introduce the companion legislation in the Senate.

But when the marching orders came down from Green Central and the Pew/Rockefeller funders, suddenly Furse/Bradley and grassroots supporters were hung out to dry and in a Clinton greenwash bait-and-switch, we now have Bradley deferring to the Murray bill.

Murray's amendment went down, 54 to 42, on March 14. But not before senator after senator in favor of the repeal out-did those opposed when it came to championing the cause of "salvage logging for forest health." We had the spectacle of Alaska Senator Frank Murkowski, backed by industry

continued on page 32

SEARS ISLAND CHIP PORT CANNED! Huge Victory for Maine's Coast and Forests

BY RON HUBER, EF! COASTWATCH!

In a stunning victory for wild Maine, the state government threw in the towel on a proposed publicly subsidized mega-woodchip port on Wassumkeag (aka Sears Island) on the shores of Penobscot Bay. The port would have been used to export up to one million tons of chipped Maine woods to hungry paper mills in Asia and Europe each year and would have attracted heavy industry and urban sprawl to the lightly humanized Penobscot Bay region on the Maine midcoast.

Earth First! waged a long and bitter campaign against the project. Armed with nothing but truth, smarts, courage and funds from the EF! Direct Action Fund, EF!ers and a loose coalition of grassroots and eco-yuppies thwarted the multi-million dollar public relations and influence-peddling

blitz of Champion International, Bowater, Georgia Pacific and their top-gun DC lobbyists as they tried to ramrod the GATT port through. The closing scene was Maine's Governor, Angus King, publicly condemning eelgrass (the little plant that actually brought down the port) and whining "The decision was rigged!" into the TV cameras as he officially conceded defeat. Yep, Angus, it was rigged, but Earth First! un-rigged it! Wassumkeag lives. The nightmare is over.

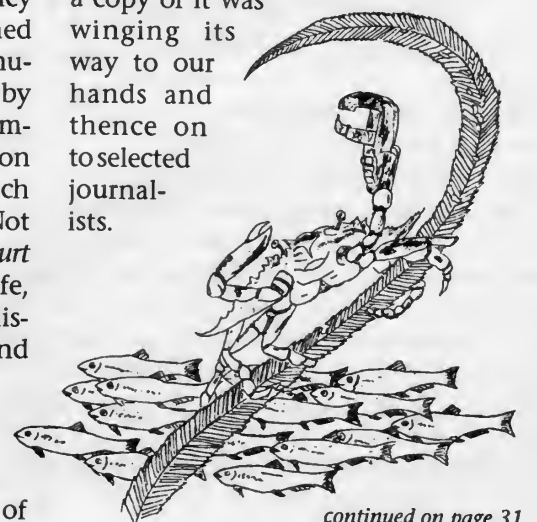
Maine EF! direct action inciter *par excellence* Jim Freeman organized a brilliant series of actions that kept the controversy firmly in the minds of the Maine media and public. The relentless campaign included occupying Wassumkeag Island, storming the headquarters of the Maine Department of Transportation (lead booster of the project), the creative re-direction of the

formal public hearings before the Army Corps of Engineers last September, presenting Maine's governor with a briefcase full of woodchips (and lots of advice!) during his media-saturated airport departure on a drum-up-the-business trip to Japan, and creating a giant stump out of wood and cloth and using it as a speaker's platform at rallies and noisy marches in the towns nearest to the awful project. The port's planners had to hold their final secret interagency meeting in mid-February behind armed guard at an air force base in Massachusetts because they feared an invasion by Maine Earth First! The vision of uncompromising Maine-iacs descending upon their sleazy deliberations was too much for the nervous Maine bureaucrats. Not that Earth First! would've actually hurt anyone, of course. We respect all life, even low-lives like Maine's Commissioners of Marine Resources and Inland Fish & Wildlife!

Curses! FOIAed Again!

To keep the agencies honest, we FOIAed (Freedom of Information Act) the holy bejeezus out of the Corps of

Engineers, Federal Highway Administration (the state's federal partner in the conspiracy), the Environmental Protection Agency, the Governor and a slew of state agencies at regular intervals, and we turned their internal memos, e-mail, secret meeting's minutes and other fascinating stuff into carefully spun grist for the media mills. With our FOIA-mania the ink was barely dry on a letter between the state and the Corps before a copy of it was winging its way to our hands and thence on to selected journalists.



continued on page 31

EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

POB 1415 • EUGENE, OREGON 97440 • (541) 741-9191



Step Back and Leap Forward

Before we began working on this issue of the *Journal*, most of the editorial staff went South for the winter. A couple of us, myself included, went as far south as Chiapas, Belize, Guatemala and even Cuba. At the risk of promoting ecotourism, I think everyone should travel far away from home at least once in their lives. Experiencing another culture will change your life, especially if you don't travel in an RV (or any vehicle for that matter). The sooner that happens the sooner you can truly begin thinking globally; the more you travel, the more you'll change; and the further you go, the further you get from the "American Dream."

People in the United States of America, even us environmentalists fighting our little forest/desert/coast battles, tend to act like we are the only people on the planet, and our area is the most/largest diverse/unique/threatened/pristine ecosystem/bioregion/watershed and must be defended with all



our resources. Well, there is a whole big world out there, folks, and the best way to really see it is to step out of this country, talk to people who don't live in the USA, and then take a look back at what your country is really like. What you will find is that not only are there a heck of a lot of people living outside of the USA, but most of 'um don't see exactly eye to eye with us world-consuming, imperialist "first" worlders.

Now, I'm not saying that "Americans" are hated or that I was mistreated. (By the way, US and Canadian citizens are frequently referred to as "North Americans" by those who share the Americas with us.) I've found that most common folks, no matter where you travel, are generally warm and friendly. But when it comes to the USA as a World Power, the general consensus is that our nation has gone too far, talks too loud and eats too much. While I don't consider myself a patriot, these realities do hit home and it makes our little local "bandage" battles seem somewhat insignificant compared to not having any food, clothing, common land, voice in government, or even any future. Our global consumption rate and our major contributions to ozone depletion and greenhouse gases dwarf even the redwoods.

The simple fact that some of us can afford to travel (and are allowed to) also sets us apart from a lot of people. Most folks are just plain too busy and too poor to travel around; they're just trying to stay alive. To them the mere questions "Have you ever heard of Earth First!?" or "Have you ever

been to..." would be insensitive, classist insults. A lot of people aren't even interested in geography and maps because, if you can't travel, foreign places become largely irrelevant. That is, until soldiers, missionaries, Coca Cola, Levi's, Shell Oil and television come around and tell you how to live from now on.

The island nation of Cuba could be used as microcosm for the whole world. The Cubans have a very limited supply of resources. They are isolated from the rest of the world by water and the recently strengthened, archaic USA trade embargo. Faced with decades of corruption and oppression by the state, the Cuban people have risen up and overthrown their would-be rulers twice in the last century. The people did it. The people were all in it together then and they are still in it together now, getting by despite Fidel Castro's failed programs.

The people of the world have a limited supply of resources and we are all stuck on this planet together. We have faced decades, even centuries, of imperialism, greed, corruption and oppression by the current world powers (i.e., multinational corporations such as the US government, the Catholic Church, the World Bank, General Motors, Proctor & Gamble, Nestlé, DuPont, etc.).

Now what do you think Ché Guevara and the Cuban people would say to do?

We all need to overthrow the current World Powers and we need to do it quick, before another species, culture or biosphere is destroyed. The USA has more than its share of the powerbrokers for us to focus on, and we the people have a lot of power. There are a lot of other people out there waiting for us in the USA to take the first step towards true freedom and to stop walking on the rest of the world while we are on the road. Go see for yourself if you don't believe me, but remember to travel lightly; we have done enough damage already. And when you return, stand up and fight back here at home.

—BY JIM FLYNN (AKA THE HOPPING GRINGO)

Corrections Box

An article about taking wolves off the endangered species list in our Yule '95 issue contained an editing error. US Fish and Wildlife Service, arguing for the premature de-listing of wolves, sees public support for wolves as a problem to be addressed. The paragraph, which began with "Interest in restoring wolves to Colorado has increased..." should have been attributed to that agency as part of its statement on "The Problem." It was mistakenly attributed to Michael Robinson of Sinapu, an opponent of the plan.

In last issue, a letter was printed with incorrect Cove/Mallard addresses. It should have read: C/M Coalition, POB 8968, Moscow, ID 83843; Last Wilderness Defense Fund, POB 9270, Moscow, ID 83843; and Wild Rockies EFL, POB 9286, Missoula, MT 59807. Sorry for any inconvenience or white hair we may have caused.

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Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or clearly printed. Send a SASE if you would like them returned. If you want confirmation of receipt of a submission, please request it. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via EcoNet. Art or photographs (prints are best) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested.

All submissions are edited for length and clarity. If an article is significantly edited, we will make a reasonable effort to contact the author prior to publication.

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SCHEDULE

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Deadline for the next issue is

APRIL 10

Eostara

Eostar, Saxon fertility Goddess, oversees the fertility rites of Spring. Fertility?

Are you nuts? Haven't you noticed that there is a serious population problem on this planet? I would like to introduce you to a new Goddess, Aratsoe, Eostara's twin sister, the Goddess of the Vasectomy.

Back in the good old days of the Pliocene, fertility was essential to the survival of the tribe. One reason that *Homo Sapiens* were so adaptable and successful was because we are so sexy. But, if you are of the persuasion that we Earth First!ers are the chosen ones of Mother Gaia and therefore we are obliged to procreate, strike that silly thought from your addled brain right now! There are plenty of children on this planet who need a lot more love and attention than they are getting. Our job is to plant seeds in minds, not in wombs. This spring, celebrate the fertility of your mind. Get a vasectomy.



Civil Disobedience as a Tactic, not a Culture

(This is an edited transcript of a speech by Mitch Friedman of the Northwest Ecosystem Alliance to the Ancient Forest Activist Conference in Ashland, Oregon, on Feb. 3, 1996.)

In 1988, after a binge of a dozen or so arrests, mostly defending Northwest ancient forests, I looked at the people sitting next to me on the logging road. They were the same people that I had seen there the week before! We were getting so carried away with how radical we were [that we failed to notice no one else had joined us], even while working for a popular goal. This confused me, especially since our so-called visionary Earth First! wilderness proposals were supportable within the mainstream of academic science. I started to wonder why scientists and old ladies in tennis shoes weren't sitting on the logging road while my rag-tag friends and I quietly applauded out of view of the cameras. And I wondered further what sort of message our "usual suspects" profile was sending about the movement and its issues to the public.

When we always use the same slogans, same activists and same tactics, we unnecessarily give an edge to our opposition. Paraphrasing Rita Mae Brown: The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. I think civil disobedience and other aggressive campaign tactics can be more effective if the people involved look like and speak to the folks we are trying to influence. The difference is more than Earth First!ers in costume. Bringing activism into the '90s is not a matter of making the '60s look like the '80s. Instead, it is going back to the 'civil' aspect of civil disobedience that Dr. Martin Luther King described so well in *A Letter from the Birmingham Jail*.

To do new things we need to reflect on old assumptions that have contributed to the stagnation and cynicism in the movement. I recall a whole series of myths that I once believed (and maybe even helped to create) within the Earth First! culture. I want to challenge them now, in my own gratuitous way.

First myth: THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS BAD PRESS. That's an old Richard Nixon adage. Didn't work for him, won't work for you. A corollary of this myth is, "The press is going to screw you no matter what." We get so caught up in our outrage against the corporate juggernaut (which includes the press) that we begin to think the press is part of a conspiracy trying to damn us. While those tendencies may or may not be present in the media, they need not be conquered. We can be dynamic. With creativity, we can almost always find a way to get our message out. We can always at least maximize our probability of getting our message out in a way that has the most impact.

Second myth: THE HAIL MARY PASS IS GOOD STRATEGY. (In football, when a team is losing and there remain only a few seconds in the game, they will attempt a "Hail Mary," which is to throw the ball as far as you can and pray that someone on your team catches it for a touchdown.) The Hail Mary is the best way I can describe many radical press events: "Nobody's doing anything, so let's just do SOMETHING!" Then the same five people go climb a tree, or lock themselves down to a bulldozer, or conduct a puke-in. The question that follows the action is "Did we get press?" instead of the more important questions, "Did we get good press?" or "Did we advance our issue?" We cannot afford to leave our organizing and media messages to luck or chance. The Hail Mary pass is nice to have as a last-second option, but we still have time to do things right in most campaigns.

Third myth: EXTENDING THE SPECTRUM ALLOWS THE MAINSTREAM GROUPS TO TAKE STRONGER POSITIONS. Let's call this one Foreman Envy. It's a great strategy, and probably deserves to be on page one of any strategy book. A good strategy book should be as thick as the Bible, which says, "For everything there is a season."

What is today the season for? What will we do tomorrow? If we do a puke-in today, what can we possibly do for an encore? People have been studying and practicing strategy for thousands of years. If it was as easy as always taking the extreme, we would all have been blown up by now.

Fourth myth: NOBODY IS KEEPING SCORE. I think those of us in urban communities look at things differently than rural activists, because rural

messengers, not just effective messages. Even if God Himself was sitting on a logging road with a kryptonite lock around her neck, the TV camera would focus on the hippie-with-a-drum. Nothing against hippies; there are many things that hippies can give to the campaign, but being in front of a camera is not the best one. Most people take offense at those who brazenly reject their norms. Why should they listen to you when your appearance tells them (or at least they think it does) that you don't respect them? And if you don't care about reaching the public, don't call the media. In fact, if you don't care what the public thinks, you will probably fit in much better with the Militia.

Sixth myth: WE RADICALS ARE CHOSEN TO SUFFER. The notion that "If we weren't out there embedded in concrete in the freezing rain, then nobody would be," is a crock! In many cases, if the Earth First!er wasn't there with the kryptonite lock, if they were instead going around spreading their enthusiasm and organizing, we would find more people willing to make a comparable commitment. But they will only do so if they can convey their own message. The commercial fisher wants to deliver a fish message. The racial minority wants to deliver an environmental justice message. The child wants to deliver the future generation message. The Auduboner wants to deliver the bird message. And they all have their own ways of doing so.

Working with other groups is not a matter of convincing them to get behind the Earth First! banner. It's a matter of convincing yourself to get behind a common banner that everyone who cares can share. It does not serve the ancient forest issue, which now enjoys broad mainstream support, to have a radical image clinging to it.

I believe that radicals are at their best when they are organizing moderates to

continued on page 8



people know that a score is being kept. When things happen in rural communities, such as a confrontational action or activists from base camp acting like brats at the tavern, residents hear about it. Residents of these rural communities know that what goes around comes around and mistakes linger for years. For instance, I wish like hell that we had not so audaciously laid siege to the Okanogan National Forest headquarters after the 1988 Round River Rendezvous. Since that day, the whole movement in that area has had to work very hard to get past obstacles to alliances and public support. We gave people too easy an excuse to turn us off.

Fifth myth: IMAGE IS NOTHING, THIRST IS EVERYTHING. Apologies to Sprite, but they're wrong about this. My observation is that, "It isn't only what's in your heart that counts, but (also) your hairstyle." I know I'm going to get a lot of heat for this, but it's important. We need to find effective

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Greetings and salutations;

I am a life-long radical—now, also, a grandmother of a pre-teen and two elementary school-age persons. In my life, I have been an anti-war activist, a community-organizer, a communalist and one of the early organizers of the neo-Pagan movement. I had a compost heap when we lived in Philadelphia in the late sixties and early seventies and have been a personal voice for the concepts of living as lightly on Earth as we can.

I am not prone to hate-filled rhetoric—didn't like it in the mid-sixties and can't relate to it now. I may feel despair, I may rage against the blind and the bigoted, but hate and vituperation are the voice of entrenched defeat. I refuse to admit defeat. And I will believe in the potential healing of my species' psyche. I will believe that we, as a species, can learn to reorganize our priorities and focus

on cleaning up and healing the harm we have done to the best of our abilities. I know we can't bring back what we have destroyed. But I hope.

Does this make me unfit to be an environmentalist? Would you "heavy" politicals prefer (as did the "heavy" politicals of the sixties) I go away and all the people like me—all the mystics, the poets, the Pagans—and let you wage your very self-righteous war upon the establishment? Do you really think you can change the behavior of human kind without a strong religious and artistic element? Are you sure that silencing the "woo woo" factions will create the strengths you need to work for Earth first? Honestly, now.

I would rather have a New Age types who "walk the talk," who live simply and frugally and are

willing to spend their lives treading softly than any number of button-downs with high tech lifestyles who look impressive to the establishment and who mouth nice phrases—yet I recognize that a lobbyist who can stop the political system from selling the wilderness and a lawyer who can stop the clear-cuts are Earth's champions.

I request tolerance. We each have important things to offer and Mother Earth needs all of us. Whatever our perspective (and we can be pretty different) if our actions move the species closer to sanity and the possibility of averting massive eco-death then we're OK.

—PENNY J. NOVACK

Dear Shit for Brains,

I'm writing to inform your readers and all activists of a very serious situation involving the operation of the Friends of the Wolf campaign in British Columbia and the Yukon.

There are allegations of misappropriation of major amounts of money over the past three years, as well as running a campaign which degrades and belittles everyone involved. Anyone who has worked on this campaign over the past three years will have their own personal horror story to relate.

I believe that everyone should know what is going on before putting their time, energy, and money into Friends of the Wolf. I've put together an information package which is the voice of many good people relating their experiences. All of the information is verifiable. For a copy, please write to me.

For the Wolf,

—DAVID BARBARASH
165-1472 COMMERCIAL DR.,
VANCOUVER, BC, V5L 3X9
CANADA.

Dear friends,

Your journal comes to me and reminds me of the names I know for the times of the year, reminds me of the untamed lands I once dwelt in and will return to. Think of me when your foot steps on the ground, when the foggy winds caress you.

Feel free to print the enclosed poems.

[Ed. note: Here is one for now.]

Moonrise 8 AM

How ever did we come to think that the moon is a thing of the night only? As if the measure of its worth were our need for its dim light. Oh, yes, we say we take account of it in the tides and in the planting out of seeds according to whether the crop is root or shoot; then go back to pray our litany of opposites—
moon sun
night day
woman man.

—KATHERINE ALICE POWER, F35935
MASS. CORRECTIONAL FACILITY, POB
9007, FRAMINGHAM, MA 01701

more letters on page 28

CLEARCUTTING THE LUBICON

Daishowa Boycott Banned by Canadian Courts

The Lubicon Lake Indian Nation of north-central Alberta, Canada is in the midst of a heated battle to save its 4,000-square mile boreal forest home from clear-cut logging by the Japanese forestry giant, Daishowa. As Lubicon Chief Bernard Ominayak put it, "If we allow them to clearcut, we may as well sign our death certificates."

Friends of the Lubicon (FoL), a Toronto-based Lubicon support group, has been working on a successful consumer boycott of Daishowa products since 1991. On January 23, an Ontario court granted a subsidiary of the multi-billion dollar Daishowa Paper Manufacturing Company of Japan an interim injunction quashing the volunteer-run Friends' boycott activities in the province of Ontario. Daishowa is claiming eight million dollars in damages and is seeking a permanent injunction and unspecified damages from three boycott organizers in a trial scheduled for April 29.

The Lubicons fear that suppressing the boycott will increase the chances of Daishowa clearcutting on Lubicon land this coming autumn.

The Lubicon Lake Indian Nation

The Lubicon Lake Indian Nation is a 500-member aboriginal society led for the past 18 years by Chief Bernard Ominayak. Prior to the 1979 onset of massive resource exploitation activity on Lubicon land, moose was their staple food. Trapping provided disposable income. Various plants were gathered for medicines and food. Lubicon land was the basis of a self-reliant and self-sufficient Lubicon society.

The Lubicon people have never ceded their traditional territory to anyone in any legally or historically recognized way. Although a treaty was negotiated with the aboriginal societies surrounding the Lubicon traditional territory in 1899, the Lubicon community was isolated, inaccessible and consequently overlooked.

Canada has been reluctant to come to terms with the question of the Lubicon's unextinguished aboriginal rights, but the federal government transferred the Lubicon's traditional territorial rights to Alberta. The province then sold the rights to billions of dollars in natural resources on those lands to resource exploitation companies, including Daishowa.

Resource Exploitation Begins

Between 1979 and 1983 over 400 oil wells were drilled within a 15-mile radius of the Lubicon community at Little Buffalo Lake. These wells generate an estimated \$500 million a year in revenues for oil companies and the Alberta government. In the process they ruined the environment and scared away the wildlife, thereby destroying the Lubicon economy and way of life.

Moose taken for food dropped from over 200 in 1979 to about 20 in 1983. In that time period, personal income from trapping dropped from over \$5,000 per year to under \$400. Welfare

dependency shot up from less than 10 percent to over 90 percent. These forced deprivations have caused horrific problems for the Lubicons, including the worst tuberculosis outbreak in Canada since the depression, a skyrocketing rate of still births, birth defects, serious respiratory and skin problems, cancers of all kinds, family breakdowns, alcoholism and suicide.

For six years, a United Nations Human Rights Committee examined Lubicon complaints of human rights abuses. In 1987, the committee asked Canada to do no further harm to the Lubicon people, and in 1990, concluded that Canada was violating Lubicon human rights. Canada re-

mains in violation of those rights to this day, and the destruction of Lubicon land continues unabated.

Daishowa Clearcuts the Lubicon

In February 1988, the Alberta provincial government announced construction of a huge new bleached kraft pulp mill to be located just west of the unceded Lubicon territory. It was to be the largest hardwood pulp mill in Canada, designed to transform 11,000 trees per day into a 1,000 metric tons of dehydrated pulp. The trees to supply the new pulp mill would come from a 29,000 square kilometer timber lease which completely blanketed the 10,000 square kilometer Lubicon territory.

Announcement of the new mill was met with nationwide protest. The Lubicons were suffering through a tuberculosis epidemic which had affected one third of the community. Chief Ominayak responded, "I think the province's intention is to come in for the kill... They know what they're doing to our people and yet they go ahead and do something like this. It just brings us closer to confronting these guys on the ground... There's no way that we're going to allow anybody to come in there and knock down our trees."

In the fall of 1990, Daishowa-owned Brewster and another contractor commenced clearcutting in the Lubicon territory. Shortly thereafter, one of their camps was raided and torched, ending logging for that year.

In 1991, Daishowa signaled their intention to resume logging on Lubicon land. The Lubicons responded by asking people to boycott Daishowa paper products until Daishowa makes a clear, unequivocal commitment to stay out

of unceded Lubicon territory until settling Lubicon land rights and negotiating an agreement with the tribe respecting Lubicon wildlife and environmental concerns.

The Daishowa Boycott

While a number of people across the country and around the world responded to the Lubicon call for a boycott of Daishowa paper products, the main effort was organized by the Toronto-based Friends of the Lubicon. Because Daishowa markets to companies rather than directly to individual consumers, the Toronto FoL communicated with retailers using Daishowa paper products. Primarily as a result of their efforts, 47 companies representing over 4,300 retail outlets across Canada have joined the boycott. Major retail chains in Canada like Roots, Club Monaco, The Body Shop and A&W are participating in the boycott, which has so far kept Daishowa at bay. No further logging has taken place on Lubicon land.

Daishowa SLAPs the Boycott

In 1995, Daishowa turned to the courts in an attempt to outlaw the Daishowa Boycott. Daishowa is using its Canadian subsidiary, which makes paper bags, to press its case. Based on labor legislation from the 1930's, Daishowa contends that it is illegal for FoL to request that the general public not buy from a store which carries Daishowa products—so-called secondary boycotting. Daishowa is also suing three individuals for damages, claiming that the boycott has cost them \$5 million in lost sales and \$3 million currently on an annual basis.

Daishowa's lawsuit is part of a growing trend in civil litigation called the

ers about their purchases, Lubicon boycott organizers are now putting all their efforts into dealing with the lawsuit and fundraising for legal expenses.

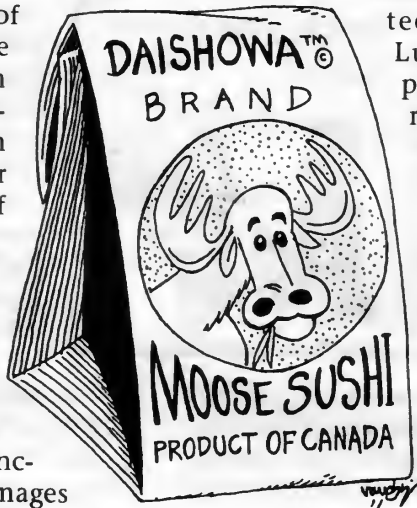
In May, 1995, a province of Ontario court denied Daishowa's application for an interim injunction to halt the boycott. The court ruled that the boycott was legal. In October, Daishowa appealed that ruling. A three-judge panel heard the appeal and reserved judgment, but also issued an order that prevented FoL from asking the public to support the Lubicon by boycotting a store which carries Daishowa products. So despite the May '95 ruling that the boycott was legal, Daishowa persuaded the court to shut it down before the appeal decision had been rendered.

On January 23, the court panel handed down its 2-1 appeal decision granting Daishowa an interim injunction to keep the boycott shut down until a trial can be heard. FoL is appealing this decision to the Ontario Court of Appeals.

Support the Lubicon Nation: Stop Daishowa

Chief Ominayak said, "Daishowa has been out for a couple of years and it looks like they want to come back in this fall... I think it's going to be a very serious situation if they keep pushing and push our people to take a stand." "It's hard battling these big multinational corporations and I hope that there are enough people who understand that and who care enough for all people of this world to help out in every way possible."

For more information or to find out how you or your group can help out, please contact the Lubicon Lake In-



Logyard at Daishowa-Marubeni's Peace River pulp mill with a clearcut visible in the background

SLAPP suit. SLAPP is an acronym for Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation. According to a commentary in Canada's national newspaper, *The Globe and Mail*, SLAPP suits are "becoming a favored tool of very large, very wealthy corporations to beat down their environmental critics." It continues, "Their object is to block citizens from participating in the free political life of their society."

Instead of educating Daishowa us-

dian Nation, 3536-106 Street, Edmonton, AB T6J 1A4, Canada; (403) 436-5652, fax (403) 437-0719.

Although FoL is receiving free legal representation, the group must fundraise for the court proceedings' expenses. All donations for defense costs are gratefully accepted. Please send donations to: Friends of the Lubicon, 485 Ridelle Ave, Toronto, ON M6B 1K6; (416) 763-7500, fax (416) 603-2715.

Massive Oil Drilling Blockade in Mexico

59 PEMEX Sites Blockaded in the State of Tabasco

On January 29, 1996, thousands of indigenous campesinos, most of whom belong to the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), one of Mexico's opposition parties, mobilized themselves in seven municipalities in the Chontal region of Tabasco, Mexico to block access to PEMEX oil wells, including the most productive oil field in Tabasco. (PEMEX is the nationally owned company that supplies oil and gas for all of Mexico.) Ten days later, although the campesinos (rural farmers) were unarmed and demonstrating peacefully, police and troops used clubs and tear gas to disperse the protesters at three demonstration sites. The worst confrontation was in Nacajuca where 1,000 police and army officials violently removed 2,000 campesinos, mostly women. A total of 102 people, many active members of the PRD, were detained and incarcerated. As of March 12, 98 people remain in jail.

The recent protests are tied to a lengthy campaign of direct action and civil disobedience in Tabasco by the campesinos and the PRD, the main opposition party in Mexico. Demonstrators are demanding compensation for environmental damage caused by PEMEX, preventive measures against future contamination, and an end to corruption by government officials. They have also protested plans to privatize PEMEX.

PEMEX = Pollution

Not Profit for the People

Campesinos who live in the petroleum zone claim severe contamination of the soil, air and water from over 20 years of oil drilling by PEMEX. Oil spills, explosions, faulty maintenance and unregulated expulsion of toxic waste in the area have polluted the environment so much that the indigenous people are unable to produce enough food to live or to maintain their livelihoods as farmers and fishers. Environmental surveys show that dredging of canals to transport heavy equipment has increased salinization of rivers and lagoons.

The campesinos in the municipality of Nacajuca, one of the regions affected most severely by the contamination, report a 60 percent decrease in the production of coconuts, as well as drastic decreases in the production of corn, beans, oranges, cacao, bananas, mangos and other food crops. Medicinal plants, once widely used by the indigenous people for curing diseases, no longer grow in the contaminated areas. Many rivers and lagoons are now so contaminated by oil and other toxic wastes that the fish have died out and the people can no longer bathe or wash clothes in the river. Acid rain is so common in the area that it is corroding the corrugated tin roofs of the local dwellings.

Disease is rampant in the area, ranging from eye and throat irritations to cholera. With contaminated water sources and a scarcity of firewood for boiling water, the people are faced with serious threats to their nutrition and overall health. Before PEMEX began oil production, there was an abundance of fish and sufficient harvests.

Fishers in the coastal areas have reported a major decrease in fish and oyster production, which many studies attribute to the rise in pollution because of continuous oil spills in the area. The regions most affected are the municipalities of Cardenas, Paraíso, Jalpa, Nacajuca, Huimanguillo, Centla, Comalcalco and Cunduacan, which reported a total of 123 oil spills in 1995.

People believed that PEMEX would provide them with jobs and that, PEMEX being the state-owned oil company, the money would reinvested revenues back into local communities. Instead, "development" has brought them nothing but personal misery and environmental destruction.

PEMEX Politics

PEMEX has long been the target of demonstrations because their pollution has ruined the livelihoods of thousands of peasants and fishers, including numerous Chontal Indians. Recent protests have focused on environmental issues and claims for compensation, but people have also protested plans to privatize PEMEX and about the election fraud in the 1994

governor's elections.

After the Tabasco gubernatorial elections in November, 1994, PRD candidate Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador made a well-documented claim that the party in power, the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), had stolen the election through fraud and illegal campaign financing. To protest the fraud, PRD members staged a series of nonviolent actions, including occupations of PEMEX facilities, a car caravan to Mexico City and a three-week occupation



of the central square in the Tabasco state capital of Villahermosa to protest the fraud. Mounting pressure forced the PRI to negotiate. In January, 1995, the talks were on the verge of an agreement for new elections when the local PRI in Tabasco rebelled and violently evicted the PRD demonstrators in front of the state legislature.

Three months later, PRD members organized a 42-day march to Mexico City. Initially numbering several hundred, the march grew to several thousand by the time it reached Mexico City. The demonstrators held sit-ins at banks and the stock exchange and set up an encampment in front of the national Congress. On June 5, sixteen boxes of documents were anonymously delivered to the encampment. These original records detailed campaign expenditures by the PRI candidate for governor in Tabasco that totaled more than 70 million dollars! In a state of only three million inhabitants (with a \$4 million legal spending limit), he spent more than Bill Clinton did to win the US presidency. The PRD asked the authorities to press charges, and after some delay, the Attorney General decided to proceed. Since then the case has dragged along with little progress.

Public Protests Petroleum Pollution

In November 1995, the PRD organized peaceful demonstrations and press conferences to push demands for compensation from PEMEX while calling for negotiations with the government. With no visible progress, PRD protests shifted to blockades of PEMEX's oil installations. Despite considerable provocation by security forces, the blockaders kept a non-violent discipline, in line with PRD policy.

In talks among the PRI, PEMEX and PRD activists on January 31, 1996, PEMEX indicated a willingness to compromise. However on February 2, the government sent police and army troops to evict protesters. The blockades continued despite daily police actions against the demonstrators. On February 5, local government officials (PRD members) joined others in blockading El Castano, an important oil installation in the region. They said their action was a response to "the aggression" suffered by peasants and fishers at the hands of soldiers and police. They demanded the release of jailed activists.

On February 7, near the village of Huatacalca, police injured 20 of the peaceful protesters and arrested seven PRD members in order to break up an occupation of the Sen oil facility in Nacajuca. A frightening array of Mexican armed forces, known as the Base de Operaciones Mixtas (BOM), conducted the operation against the protesters. BOM is made up of riot police, state and federal judicial police, the highway patrol and the Mexican Army. Demonstrators were pursued into nearby communities by helicopters lobbing tear gas. One woman reportedly had her leg broken. PRD leader Lopez Obrador was struck on the head but not seriously injured. (Obrador is currently a leading candidate to be elected president of the national PRD.) The beatings and arrests have seriously undermined attempts at negotiations and display the government's willingness to employ an iron fist policy in the face of

continuing protests.

On February 8 and 9, members of the BOM arrested more than 50 people (30 of them women) in the Tabasco municipalities of Cardenas and Centia, including Darwin Gonzalez Ballina, the ex-municipal president and former PRD Member of Parliament for Tabasco state. Authorities have also issued an arrest warrant for Lopez Obrador.

In the face of the crackdown, protesters have retreated, only to reoccupy the facilities when security forces leave. The protests have spread to additional facilities as well. As late as February 12, thousands of demonstrators continued to blockade as many as 59 sites, insisting that they would stay until the government begins serious negotiations.

PEMEX claims to have lost about 450,000 dollars per day as a result of the blockades. Lopez Obrador responded by pointing out that PEMEX has polluted 750,000 acres of land in Tabasco. Of the \$40 million that PEMEX gave the state government for damages, Obrador claims that only 10 percent has been spent on social programs and infrastructure improvements in poor communities and that the PRI governor spent the rest on public relations campaigns and political favors.

PEMEX nets approximately \$2 million per day, which is three times the annual debt of some of the local municipalities. On February 16, 1995, a PEMEX gas line exploded in a community in the Municipality Centro in Villahermosa. Nine people were killed and many more injured; Many lost their homes. Even though PEMEX and government officials have signed documents acknowledging liability and promising to pay compensation, not one payment has been made because the campesinos affected do not have proper documentation to show they were living in their houses prior to the explosion.

IMMEDIATE ACTION NEEDED:

There are growing fears for the safety of those being imprisoned as well as for other PRD members and indigenous people involved in defending peasants' land rights. Involvement in issues such as land disputes or compensation rights have often resulted in state-sponsored violence in a number of Mexican states, notably Chiapas, Guerrero, and recently, Oaxaca.

Write and urge for a prompt, thorough and impartial investigation into allegations of the use of excessive force and ill treatment by members of the police and military forces at the PEMEX blockades in Tabasco, and for those responsible to be brought to justice.

Ask that all those detained defending their homeland be released immediately.

Also insist on official negotiations to address the legitimate claims of the peasants and fishers for compensation for their economic losses; measures to insure that profits actually reach the communities in need; and improved maintenance procedures to avoid future contamination and deadly explosions.

Send appeals to:

- 1) Señor President, Lic. Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon, Presidente de la República, Palacio Nacional, 06067 Mexico DF, Mexico; fax 011 52 5 271 1764
- 2) Señor Gobernador, Roberto Madrazo Pintado, Gobernador del Estado de Tabasco, Palacio de Gobierno, Villahermosa, Tabasco, Mexico; fax 011 52 5 681 8125
- 3) Antonio Lozano García, Procuraduría General de la República, Paseo de la Reforma No. 75, Col. Guerrero, 06300 Mexico DF; fax 011 525 626 4403
- 4) Señor Secretario, Lic. Emilio Chuayfarr Chemor, Col. Juárez, 06699 Mexico DF, Mexico; fax 011 52 5 546 5350/7380 592 0584
- 5) Ambassador Jesús Silva Herzog, Embassy of Mexico, 1911 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006 [Note—use 011 only when dialing from the US.]

For more information contact Ted Lewis at Global Exchange, 2017 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94110; (415) 255-7296, fax (415) 255-7498, e-mail: globalexch@igc.apc.org; or Amnesty International at POB 1270, Nederland, CO 80466-1270; (303) 440-0913, fax (303) 258-7881, e-mail: sharriso@aiusa.usa.com.

Sunita Chethik and Ted Lewis of Global Exchange contributed to this article.

Dam Proposal Animates Opposition

BY OAK

The last free-flowing river out of the San Juan Mountains in southwest Colorado is about to be diverted and dammed by the Animas-LaPlata water diversion project (A-LP). The curvaceous and moody Animas River (River of Lost Souls, hmm...how appropriate) tumbles and winds from its headwaters in the San Juan National Forest down through the streets of Durango, onto the Southern Ute Reservation, into New Mexico past ancient Anasazi ruins, eventually joining with the San Juan River for the unenviable journey to the dreaded and fetid Lake Powell.

So, you might ask, just who is sub-human enough to mess with a rare, unspoiled river? Well, the usual suspects: the US Bureau of Wrecklamation (BuRec), political hacks like Senators Ben Nighthorse Campbell and Hank Brown, the Clinton Administration, and local west-side ranchers. Also weighing in on the side of greed and ignorance is a majority vote in the Southern Ute Tribal Council lookin' to secure the water rights that they truly deserve. Unfortunately, the Animas-LaPlata Water Diversion Project (A-LP) won't really get them what they want. Phase I of this boondoggle barely nets the tribe any water; preference goes to the City of Durango, Anglo farmers, and industry (surely not the whitewater rafting and sportfishing industries!). Phase II, which actually gets the water to the reservation for upwards of \$160 million, is not funded and many believe may never be.

All right, so what does this disaster look like and what kind of trashing is the earth gonna take this time? A \$63 million pumping plant three stories high and the length of a football field is proposed for the base of Smelter Mountain in Durango, just across the river from Gateway Park. (The other side of the Park is home to the sewage treatment plant which will clearly discharge right into the pumping plant's intake. "Welcome to Durango!") An inlet channel leading to the pump house will be gouged out of the river and anywhere between 15 and 50 percent of the Animas (depending on the season) will be pumped 500 feet up the mountain into a newly created reservoir. (Didn't there used to be a valley here?) The reservoir will be three and three-quarter miles long, two miles wide and more than 300 feet deep near the dam. Pumping water up to the reservoir will consume an estimated 165 million kilowatts of energy per year, enough to run a city of 26,000 residents. In keeping with the genius and foresight of 20th-century technology, the water in the reservoir will lap on shores of uranium mine tailings, the body of water itself may be undermined by a series of old coal mine shafts that no one seems to have a map of, and, lest we want for more signs of nescience, a fine collection of geological faults stands ready to threaten the integrity (dare I say) of both the reservoir and the dam.

The elk and deer herds that make this part of the country famous graze relatively undisturbed by humans at Ridges Basin, a State Wildlife Refuge. The basin is slated to be the reservoir. No word yet on advanced swimming lessons for the ungulates, but they may be allowed to wander down to the Animas for a drink, provided they don't mind the higher salinity resulting from the decreased flow. Had enough? That's just Phase I!

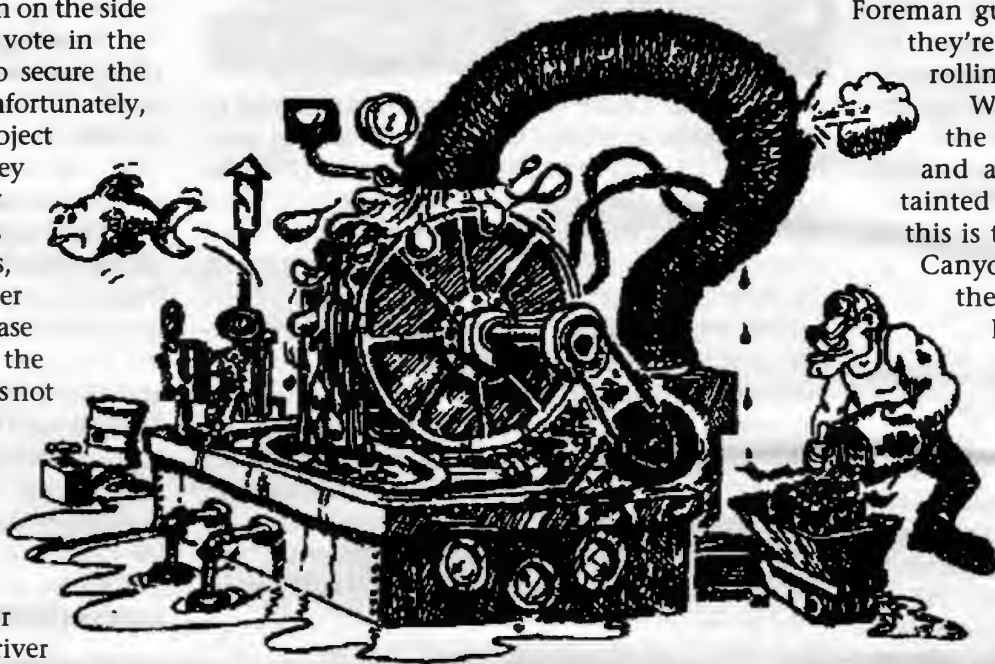
Those species that dwell on and by the shores of the Animas (which has been called "the best riparian habitat in New Mexico, bar none") will surely take a beating, but the San Juan River (which the Animas flows into) is home to two endangered species, the razorback sucker and the Colorado squawfish. The later is the world's largest minnow, growing up to five feet in length.

According to *High Country News*, "Before its numbers were slashed by the proliferation of dams on the Colorado River and its tributaries, [the Colorado squawfish] was often used by farmers as fertilizer. In the 1960s, it was poisoned in parts of the San Juan to create trout habitat. Listed as an

endangered species in 1967, it wasn't believed to have a viable population in the San Juan until the late 1980s, when biologists found 27 fish." If the flow of its habitat is decreased by the A-LP project, the species will be diminished once more.

Not surprisingly, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is studying the situation while signing off on the pumping station and reservoir as a "reasonable and prudent alternative" to the entire project. Right. Meanwhile, the razorback sucker is stuck in Lake Powell with no way to return to its ancestral home up the San Juan, due to past alterations in the river.

As Kieran Suckling pointed out in the Brigid edition of the *Journal* ("An Open Letter to the Endangered Species Coalition"), FWS Memorandums of Agreement "...virtually exempt vast tracts of land from the Endangered Species Act, including the lower Colorado River and the entire State of Colorado." So long, sucker.



Opponents of the Animas-LaPlata Project, Native and non-Native alike, point out that Phase II of A-LP smells a lot like coal profits. Beneath the area southwest and southeast of Durango is the Fruitland Coal Outcrop, the first or second richest seam of low-sulfur, high-BTU coal in the US. The Bureau of Wrecklamation's 1980 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the project goes on and on about "an estimated six billion tons of coal available for strip mining in the northwestern part of the San Juan Basin, with more extensive reserves in existence that could be recovered by more costly underground mining methods" and that "the two Ute reservations have the potential for vastly increased coal development. Approximately 39 million tons of coal lie within 250 feet of the surface on the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation, and would be recoverable by surface mining methods. Estimates of strip-mineable reserves range from 116 million to

400 million tons for the Southern Ute Indian Reservation (east of Ute Mountain). Reserves as much as two to three times these amounts lie deeper." The more recent 1992 draft EIS barely mentions coal. Now, why is that? Looks to be that there's more under the surface than a seam of coal. Seems to some that a whole lot o' water would be needed for power plants, coal gasification and synthetic fuels development. Hmmm.

So, who's opposed to this hair-brained scheme? Well, there's the Southern Utes Grassroots Group (one of whom apparently sits on the Tribal Council as a voice of opposition). This group of traditionalists want the Animas River undisturbed for cultural and spiritual value. Then there's local Anglo citizen groups like Taxpayers for the Animas River and the Four Corners Action Coalition. A number of white water rafting and other sport groups have signed on; heck, even this Dave Foreman guy is onboard. However, it looks like they're all about to capsize cuz this sucker's rollin' with a lot of dead weight behind it.

What dead weight is that, you say? Well, the usual suspects listed above, naturally, and all the bullshit public relations their tainted money can buy. Let us not forget that this is the same BuRec that gave us the Glen Canyon Dam, wet dreams about damming the Grand Canyon and disasters like Teton Dam. This A-LP project is considered, even by members of Congress, to be the last of such depraved giants from the old school of Dominion. It even earned the infamous "Porker of the Week" award from Representative Thomas Petri (R-WI) as a "behemoth, wasteful and environmentally unsound" project. So, since this here thing is a bonafide, dyed-in-the-wool, unsound, overpriced, deadweight-Earth-trashing porker it stands to reason

that EVERYBODY WANTS IT! Wrong.

Did I mention that the shovel hits the scrubble this summer? Yup, that's if the proponent slime get their way and blow off the last of those nice Sierra Club legal challenges, something they've been doing with this dinosaur (apologies to the giants of old) for nearly 30 years since its ill-conception. The Bureau of Wrecks is allegedly coming out with its final supplement to its EIS sometime in April, which is sure to be challenged. Should that challenge be overruled, which is fairly likely, A-LP may get the green flag (did I say "green"?). Sometime in June. Soooo, you might want to consider packing yur' bags for a working vacation in the San Juans this summer, it could be a real white water river adventure!

For more information contact Ancient Forest Rescue at POB 4416 Durango, CO 81302-4416; (970) 247-7676.

SENATE FARM BILL THREATENS STREAMS

BY GARTH KAHL

Hours before passing reauthorization of the Farm Bill, the Senate approved a last-minute addition to the bill that would drastically reduce federal protections for streams on National Forests, by allowing private and municipal water users to completely divert streams throughout the west. The last-minute language, introduced by Senator Hank Brown (R-CO), would eliminate regulations currently in place that require those diverting water from Forest Service lands to maintain at least minimum or "bypass" flows for the preservation of fish and other species.

This legislation is virtually identical to a measure previously added to the House version of the bill by Representative Wayne Arnold (R-CO). That measure was defeated due to intense pressure from environmental and anglers' groups, as was another of Allard's nightmarish provisions, which would have made it impossible for the Forest Service to take action or make policy changes to maintain viable populations of any species not on the brink of extinction.

At press time, both the House and Senate versions of the Farm Bill have passed their respective houses of Congress and are headed for a conference committee whose members have yet to be named. Since the Senate version of the bill contains the stream by-pass legislation and the House version does not, the conference committee will decide whether this legislation is to be included in the final bill. Please call your senators and representatives. Ask them to vigorously oppose the Brown Amendment to the Farm Bill, which would eliminate "minimum stream bypass flows." For more information contact Trout Unlimited, 1500 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 310, Arlington, VA 22209-2310; (703) 284-9406.

Wake Up Call: A RESPONSE TO COCKBURN

BY FRANK RIVERS

On February 1, *The Seattle Times* ran a column by Alexander Cockburn called "Why German Nazis were big fans of animal rights." The piece was distributed nationally as part of Cockburn's syndicated "Nature and Politics" column. Cockburn attacked animal rights activists and deep ecologists, comparing them to Nazis. He claimed that Nazis "blurred the distinction between humans and animals" which, in turn, led to genocide.

It is tempting to attack Cockburn's ludicrous perspective directly. After all, the differences between the two cultures are obvious. Nazi Germany was built on a foundation of racism, groupthink, obedience, and delusions of grandeur. Deep ecology, on the other hand, could care less about race, has a profound dislike for authority, and seeks to renounce power while living in harmony with the natural world. The Nazi regime was built on a foundation of collective insanity; deep ecology is built on a foundation of biology and a love of life.

Obviously, Cockburn is just spewing words. After all, we could just as easily point the finger of accusation at the German agriculturists. Indeed, Cockburn himself notes that the German programs of race purification were based on a model of farm improvement, breeding refinements and the elimination of poor stock. At no point, however, does he say that farmers are Nazis. At no point does he suggest that industrial agriculture leads to genocide. He does suggest, however, that since Hitler was a vegetarian, all vegetarians are one step away from rounding up the nearest minority race and exterminating them. This "logic" would be downright amusing if it weren't so tragic.

The real issue for us, however, is not Cockburn's tortured reasoning. It is the fact that deep ecology has been so thoroughly misinterpreted. Clearly, we've got a huge public relations problem. If mainstream America really believes that deep ecology is about genocide and "animals over people," then we're going to stay in the backwater of

public discourse right up until the end. After all, a lot more people read *The Seattle Times* than read the *Journal*.

We are, of course, somewhat to blame for this state of affairs. We do trash the human race from time to time, and then we wonder why we aren't winning many converts. Maybe we ought to exercise a little more political sophistication.

Now, I am the first to acknowledge the poor record of my species. After all, there is no question that human beings are the primary perpetrators of habitat destruction and loss of biodiversity on the planet. There is no question that human consumption and reproduction puts every living thing in danger.

Nevertheless, as a method of persuasion, misanthropy is a dead end. Lest we forget, our prime objective is to convince human beings to change their consumptive and reproductive behavior. Hating people is not going to accomplish that. Indeed, the backfire reaction is likely to make things worse.

I hate to say this, but at some level, we've got to sell deep ecology, and the only way that's going to happen is if we clean it up. We don't have to whitewash it, or put a happy face on it, but we ought to tone down some of the rhetoric, especially celebrations of rising human death rates. There is nothing to be gained by promoting human misery.

The people-on-the-street are not moved by attacks on their species. We cannot get them to appreciate nature by telling them that they are an evolutionary dead end. We cannot instill a feeling of biological humility by calling them biological pathogens. Most people, not surprisingly, identify strongly with their species.

The treatment we need is integration with the natural world, something that is impossible with either Humans First! speciesism or Humans Last! misanthropy. Both doctrines are erroneous; one puts human beings on a pedestal, the other puts them in a pit. The problem is that there is a degree of truth in both perspectives; we are both gifted and pathogenic. We are capable of more creativity than

any other creature ever dreamed of and we are capable of more heinous atrocity as well.

The dissonance between these two perspectives tears us apart and many of us retreat to one end or the other. Here the anthropocentrist and the misanthrope feel safe, but neither contributes to a solution. We ought to remember F. Scott Fitzgerald's wisdom, "The test of a first rate intelligence is the ability to hold two opposed ideas in mind at the same time and still function."

What we need is a sense of creative and humane misanthropy that holds the two opposites together in a single whole. On the one hand, we acknowl-

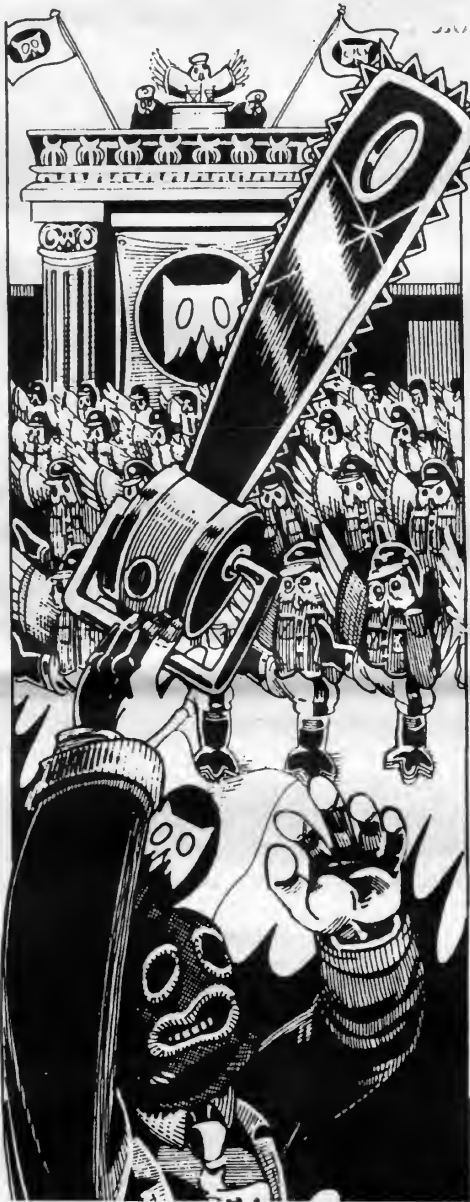
edge the atrocity with biological objectivity; on the other hand we exercise deep compassion for our human companions. In this type of humane misanthropy, hating the human species is OK, but hating people is not. So go ahead. Loathe what we are doing to the natural world, but show compassion for the human victims. Detest the clear-cut and the timber baron, but identify with the plight of the blue-collar timber worker. Hate your species, but love your neighbor.

Unfortunately, some people believe that conservation and environmentalism are intrinsically anti-human. Don't take this bait! Instead, turn the charge around and point out the fact that saving the natural world is actually highly beneficial to human beings. Turn the spotlight of attention on those forces that are genuinely anti-human: the industrial profiteers. As David Ehrenfeld points out in *The Arrogance of Humanism*, "The true misanthropes are those who are struggling to hold the mad course that we are now pursuing with such relentless enthusiasm and such little heed for the ultimate cost." The mad developer, the timber baron, the economist and the pro-natalist are really misanthropes trying to project a humanitarian image.

As for "blurring the distinctions between animals and humans," this is exactly what biologists do for a living. Is Cockburn prepared to say that biologists are Nazis? Maybe he is, which is a scary thought. Nevertheless, "blurring the distinction" is precisely what we need to do if we are ever to resolve the current ecological crisis. There will be no environmental harmony unless we start behaving with some biological humility. Being a good animal is a great place to start.

If Cockburn doesn't like thinking of himself as an animal, well, maybe he'd rather think of himself as a plant or a fungus. Either way, he's one of Earth's organisms, something he'll discover in short order the day his bioregion collapses.

Frank Rivers, author of *The Way of the Owl*, lives on Bainbridge Island, WA.



SEWAGE DUMPING THREATENS ESTUARY IN S. CALIFORNIA

BY BRAD BERGER

What do you get when you mix the water requirements of massive development with wet winters? Sewage, lots of sewage. In Irvine, California, home of mega-developer, the Irvine Company, this mix has resulted in plans by the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) to dump five million gallons of treated sewage per day into the Upper Newport Bay.

Locally known as the Back Bay, the bay is a beautiful and rare tidally flushed estuary with abundant land and aquatic wildlife. It's home to unbelievable numbers of birds including the federally endangered light-footed clapper rail. Why is the IRWD doing this? Yep, money. The toilet water they treat and sell for landscape irrigation has little demand in the wet winter season so instead of paying the Orange County Water District to take it, they want to dump it.

The Back Bay has been threatened by many

schemes to rob her of biodiversity and beauty in the name of cash; from salt extraction to water-side housing and dredged marinas. Up to the present, Friends of the Bay, a large group of concerned citizens, have kept encroaching development from destroying the Back Bay further and were the driving force behind having the unique estuary designated as a California Ecological Habitat Preserve.

The flow of water into the Back Bay is primarily salt water from the Lower Newport Bay which is connected directly to the Pacific Ocean. Before the area was developed, very little fresh water entered the bay. Within the last century, however, a channel called San Diego Creek was cut for ranching and agricultural purposes and drains directly into the Back Bay. The San Diego Creek and the nearby Delhi Channel supply most of the fresh water to the bay and is primarily runoff from the surrounding topography including the San Joaquin Hills. (The San Joaquin tollroad crosses the San Diego Creek and

will also dump runoff into the creek and the Back Bay. Yuk!—see the Lughnasadh 1994 *EF!Journal*,). Winter rainstorms sporadically provide large amounts of fresh water runoff. However, the base flow in the channels is runoff from watering crops, lawns and golf courses (primarily with treated sewage!) and is laden with nitrogen fertilizers and other horrific chemicals and trash. These chemicals contribute heavily to nasty green algae blooms in the bay during the warmer months of the year. The sewage dumping planned by the IRWD will add a considerable amount of nitrogen to what is already present in the base flow.

Before the San Diego Creek was cut through it and other development occurred, the upper end of the Back Bay was contiguous with a vast brackish-water marsh. The incredible tapestry of life that exists from the ocean to the marsh and beyond continues to be diminished and the only existing remnant of the marsh is the San Joaquin Marsh of the University

continued on page 18

Clearcuts cause flooding (Duh!)

BY VICTOR ROZEK

There is a fatalism about natural disasters. They come unbidden and remain beyond our control, causing random devastation. But Oregon residents have a right to be livid, because much of the flood damage inflicted on our state and its residents was predictable and preventable.

The worst effects of the 1996 flood—the incredible volume of water scouring our watersheds, washing tons of mud and debris downstream, and hundreds of landslides that buried roads and damaged homes—could have been averted. Much of the flood damage was human-caused. It was a direct and inescapable result of clearcut logging.

Ten times the amount of water runs off a clear-cut slope as is released by a standing forest. Ten times! That number was easily verified in the freshly-logged Mohawk watershed near Marcola, where I live. Parson's Creek, which is usually no more than 15 feet wide, turned into a 57-yard wide (I measured) torrent of dark brown muddy water. It screamed downslope carrying logging debris, burying and damaging Parson's Creek Road, and threatening homes built along the creek.

In the Mohawk Valley below, tons of silt and mud from clearcuts settled in homes and fields and smothered the Springfield Golf Course as the Mohawk River left its banks. As we look at our creeks and rivers running dirty brown, it is important to remember that rainwater is not brown, nor is the water released by a standing forest.

All across the state, landslides collapsed on roadways, some destroying homes and damaging schools. In almost every case, the collapsing hillsides had been clear-cut of trees that would have kept them stable. With no trees, no soil-securing root systems and no ground cover to soak up rain and prevent erosion, the ground gave way. The greedy cutting of steep-slope timber in populated areas exacerbated a deluge and turned it into a disaster. This is another example of the many externalized costs of industrial logging, an industry that survives largely on public subsidies and has, for years, ignored the social costs of logging.

The public loses in four ways. First, we lose billions in tax dollars subsidizing logging on public lands—about \$8.2 billion since 1980, according to government accounting. Even after counting

county revenue from logging operations, the timber industry is a net tax recipient.

Then we lose by having our public forests destroyed, forests that provide us with many benefits in their living years—including flood abatement, clean drinking water, pure air, healthy fisheries, medicines, wildlife habitat, climate moderation and recreation.

We further lose when private logs and minimally processed public timber are exported. According to the US Department of Agriculture's Pacific Northwest Research Station and the US Department of Commerce, nearly half of all timber cut in six western states is exported. If jobs are the issue, they can be found on the export docks.

Last, we lose by incurring the costs of logging activities like excessive flooding, enduring the choking smoke from slash burns and the loss of wildlife and recreation opportunities. All of these costs are simply passed on to the public as the cost of doing business—your cost, their business.

If the timber industry were forced to bear its fair share of the cost of this year's flood damage, you could be sure that massive clearcutting on steep slopes would cease. Taxpayers may rightfully expect companies that logged slide sites to compensate the state for road repair and excavation. Citizens whose homes have been damaged by mud and logging debris should have legal recourse to recover their losses.

No one—not Weyerhaeuser, not the federal Bureau of Land Management, not private land owners—has a right to manage lands in so irresponsible a fashion as to cause catastrophic damage to downstream neighbors. Even if the risk is small, it should not be borne by those who had no part in the decision to log.

Passing on such costs to the public—including the cost of higher insurance rates—is simply an outrageous "taking," no different than having the government seize, destroy or devalue your property. Such takings should be compensated.

Ironically, watershed protection and flood abatement were the driving reasons for establishing the national forest preserves in the late 1800s. It is high time that the timber industry quit claiming all of the benefits of logging on public lands while ignoring the responsibilities.

Five thousand years of human history show us

that if you overcut your forests you will flood the valleys below them. It should be no secret. After the 1964 flood, public outrage over the results of excessive logging resulted in the building of numerous dams. This time they were not enough, which should tell us something about the volume of clear-cutting and the condition of our watersheds.

As soon as the waters receded, logging began anew in the damaged Mohawk watershed, as it did throughout the Northwest. So much for concern for the public welfare.

A class-action lawsuit may help return sanity to public forest land management. Given the likelihood of recurrent flooding, it is worth considering.

Victor Rozek is the editor of Forest Voice, a publication of the Native Forest Council. You can reach NFC at POB 2190, Eugene, OR 97402; (541) 688-2600.

Civil Disobedience as a Tactic, not a Culture

continued from page 3

do radical things. These are some tips that can help people succeed:

BE HAPPY WITH INCREMENTAL CHANGE: Of course those who promote forest protection primarily as part of a broader goal (e.g., subverting the dominant paradigm, smashing the state) will never be satisfied just with advances in forest protection. But obstructing incremental or limited success does not comprise a plan for greater change.

GIVE CREDIT, DON'T TAKE CREDIT: To build the broad-based movement, of which we are capable and which we will need in order to win, we must continually be willing to give credit, rather than take it. It is particularly important to give credit to grassroots groups, new allies, and sometimes even politicians. This is about finding ways to be ecocentric, not egocentric, and helping people feel as though they're an important part of the movement. We hard-cores already know that we'll still be involved tomorrow. We need to make the work gratifying enough to others so that they'll be more likely to be with us for the long fight.

FEIGN HUMILITY: David Brower taught me this when I was a rambunctious EF! activist. I was about to debate a couple of timber industry hacks, and I asked David, "I've never been in a debate, but I know I can kick these guys' butts because I know more than they do and I'm right. What should I do tactically to succeed?" Brower replied, "Well if you're so smart and you know you can defeat these guys, what you need to do is feign humility." So if you're full of dignity and respect for other people and for the Earth, show it. Otherwise feign humility.

This year we have great issues to organize around. Issues like the clearcut rider, sweetheart deals in Congress, and the attack on the environment by the radical right, are resonating with the public more than we ever have before. We have more energy now than we had even at the height of the ancient forest wars. Polls show that people care about the environment and want more protection, not less. The key will be finding the right messengers and organizing well.

Unfortunately, as a movement, we too often alienate even our closest allies. The only way that we are going to make progress on these issues is if everything we do is infused with a spirit of dignity and respect. If we are not reaching out to and organizing new people (including mainstreamers), then we are, by definition, not advancing the movement. No matter how strong our facts or how large our vision, the Earth cannot afford for us to be few and proud.

—MITCH FRIEDMAN



Blockades and Bloodhounds in the Olympics

BY CHELSEA GERLACH

Recipe For An American Living Room:

2,000 lbs. concrete

35 feet of rebar

3 lock boxes

1 Le Car (aka Pepe)

articles of living room furniture

1 American family

On February 9, the America family—John, Jane and Junior America—moved onto Forest Service Road 2630, blocking access to the Rocky timber sale in the Olympic National Forest in Washington. Jane and Junior America were locked to a couch filled with cement, reinforced with rebar, and locked to concrete in the road. Their living room also included a wood stove, table, carpet, windows and a television. John America was in the “driveway” locked into the road via Pepe Le Car. A 35-foot banner above the living room proclaimed “Not in Anyone’s Backyard.” The family had written letters, visited their representatives, and talked to the US Forest Service (FS), but to no avail. Because of the “Logging Without Laws” (Salvage) rider, their concerns fell on deaf ears, and their only recourse was direct action. The cement and rebar bonanza confounded the Freddiees and proved immobile until day two of the blockade.

Ben White, Pacific Director of Friends of Animals, arrived on the scene and decided to lock himself to a barricade which mysteriously appeared in the road. He was dug out by the Freddiees several hours later but in the meantime made several calls to the media on his cellular phone. Unable to remove the America family, the Forest Service resorted to torture tactics. The family was threatened and harassed, and then stripped of boots, winter clothing, shelter, food, and warmth by Forest Service law enforcement. Facing hypothermia, the activists unlocked and were handcuffed and cited for violating a federal closure.

Rocky is one of 11 “section 318” timber sales on the Olympic Peninsula released by the Savage rider (see Blank Wall, *EF!* Brigid '96). The 55-acre sale encompasses almost all of the remaining old growth in the Rocky Brook drainage and contains critical habitat for the spotted owl and marbled murrelet. The area is extremely steep and will be clearcut across a Class IV stream, which under the President’s Forest Plan is supposed to receive a 400-foot riparian buffer.

The Forest Service called in all the troops to keep the public out of the public land surrounding the sale. First, to get rid of the America family’s pesky friends and neighbors, they doubled the federal closure, extending it to the boundary of the National

Forest. However, much to the dismay of the Freddiees, 15 activists remained inside the closure keeping an eye on the family. It was after dark on the second day when the Freddiees finally froze out the Americas and began to clear the woods of prowling activists, using huge spotlights and barking bloodhounds. A Special Agent chased one activist for over an hour. The forest defenders prevailed, using superior backwoods agility to evade the evil law enforcement officials. They returned night after night to cause more trouble and keep the Freddiees on their toes.

Meanwhile, a base camp was set up at a local campground and a vigil maintained at the edge of the closure. The demonstrators kept anywhere from four to ten Freddiees busy all week. On February 12, ten people were arrested for Disorderly Conduct without warning while sitting on the side of the road. They were then informed that the closure had been extended even further and now included the county road used to access the sale. Both ends of the closure are guarded 24 hours a day by at least two Freddiee vehicles. By week three, we had cost the FS over \$100,000 in security costs.

Despite high levels of security, several activists were able to climb high into the trees and occupy the sale units in “tree-boats” (enclosed hammock-like contraptions). The tree-sitters stopped the logging for most of the day, but the Freddiees decided to allow cutting to continue, despite having found only one of the sitters. Fearing for his life and watching the ancient trees fall all around him, one wily activist descended and escaped into the night. Multiple Freddiees with a spotlight and one irate logger with a shotgun guarded the last arboreal activist for three days before he reluctantly rappelled from his perch.

As the weekend came, the call went out for a mass action at the closure. Friday night several civil disobedience workshops prepared activists from all across western Washington for the big event. Saturday morning, 350 people from all walks of life came to protest logging at Rocky. After inspiring pleas to break the closure, over 100 people walked across the line, past the 15 Freddiee-mobiles and 10 county sheriff vehicles, and were arrested. One woman was charged with assault when she screamed at the arresting officer who was dislocating her shoulder.

A week later, the President came to town. Over a thousand people rallied in downtown Seattle to voice opposition to the “Logging Without Laws” rider. A tripod was erected with a bear at the top urging uncompromising defense of native forests. Later, some of the protesters went to a local community college where Clinton was giving a speech. Some slipped past the Secret Service and a seemingly

infinite number of cops, and some obtained tickets from people in line. While activists were listening to the speech in the college’s gymnasium, one activist interrupted the political banter telling Clinton to repeal the rider and protect ancient forests, but was quickly removed by security officials. The protests were acknowledged by Clinton, who announced that his administration made “one or two mistakes due to the law of unintended consequences...” He also promised to work with Senator Murray to repeal the portion of the salvage rider that allows for the cutting of old growth. Sounds vaguely familiar and none too hopeful.

Earlier, on February 14, Representative Norm Dicks, one of the original co-sponsors of the salvage rider, said that “We’ve got to make it crystal clear that



the average American family relaxing on the living-room couch ... in the middle of a logging road

we’re not going to cut down any more old growth,” after being subjected to a finely orchestrated office occupation and increased political pressure.

Despite the promises, we have yet to see any real action on behalf of ancient forests (surprise!). Many of these areas will not be safe even if the rider is repealed. Option 9 offered little more protection for this already imperiled ecosystem. We’ve got to make it “crystal clear” that the rider must be repealed in its entirety, and that we will not sacrifice Eastside native forests for Westside old growth. Demand Zero Cut on public lands!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!! This is just one of the sales we’ve been fighting, and there are 10 more! Come! to the peninsula and defend ancient forests. Send! gear and money.

Write! and Call! your local spineless politicians. Tell! all your relations (family, affinity group and people you see on the street) to do the above. No guns, no drugs, no alcohol at basecamp. For more information contact Cheetwoot *EF!*, POB 60164, Olympia, WA 98502; (360) 866-8386.

New Guinea Tribespeople Riot Against Freeport MacMoRan

Thousands of local people, mostly indigenous tribespeople, are rioting and have reportedly seized control of two urban centers run by the US-owned Freeport/RTZ mining company in Irian Jaya, New Guinea. On March 12, about six thousand people left the town of Tembagapura after a day of rioting which left many company buildings, vehicles and security offices badly damaged. Some went on foot, others hijacked company vehicles and made their way down from the mining center to the settlements of New Town—recently renamed Kuala Kencana by Indonesian President Suharto (Indonesia currently occupies this part of New Guinea)—and Timika, on the coast.

Freeport MacMoRan, based in New Orleans, has been the focus of intense criticism by human rights groups for brutal repression of labor organizers and others in Indonesia. The company, and its president, Jim-Bob Moffet, have also been targeted by Austin *EF!* (see the *EF!*, Litha '95) for destroying

watersheds around Austin, Texas.

In New Town, thousands of people rioted, attacking security offices and company buildings where they ransacked cupboards and smashed computers. They then moved on to the luxury department store where they again caused extensive damage. Angry crowds were unstoppable.

From New Town, the crowds moved on to Mile 34, the location of another company base, where they damaged cars, offices and anything else belonging to Freeport. The only building not attacked was a hospital. In Mile 28, another company settlement, they burned down a Freeport workshop and tried to attack the five-star hotel, the Freeport environmental center and the Timika airport. Because of the presence of some five hundred troops around the airport, the crowds were unable to proceed any further.

In Timika, angry tribespeople carried out similar actions against anything connected with the company. This

crowd also tried to approach the airport from a different direction but also came up against heavily armed troops. Some attackers succeeded in breaching the defense, despite warnings from troops who started firing in the air. Two villagers were reportedly wounded.

The crowds involved in the attacks include Amungme, Dani and Moni people, who work for Freeport in Tembagapura and who are now refusing to work.

During a meeting with Freeport officials, local leaders demanded that Jim-Bob Moffett and President Suharto come and meet them to hear their grievances.

Lemasa, the Amungme Tribal Council, held a meeting on March 12 in Timika to discuss the tense situation with church and military officials. One Amungme chief said, “We will fight against Jim-Bob, against Freeport, against the Indonesian government because they have taken our land, destroyed our

identity and our very existence.”

This week’s open revolt has occurred because for years, no one—not the company, the government or the military—has taken notice of the local people’s grievances about the damage the mining operations have inflicted on the local inhabitants. Much of the three thousand hectares of land belonging to the Amungme people has reportedly been seized by the company and many local rivers have been contaminated.

People fear that because Freeport has been designated a “vital project” by the Indonesian government (the company is Indonesia’s largest taxpayer), retribution from the government could be extremely harsh.

Colonel Zahlan, a military commander in Timika, was quoted as saying, “The situation is getting out of hand here.” According to the report, the police in Timika had given up and “the military is awaiting orders to take action.”

BLF TO BABBITT: LIST THE LYNX!

On January 30, suit was filed in Washington, DC District Court against Secretary of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) for failing to list and protect the Lynx (also known as the Canada Lynx) under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Joined by a large group of grassroots environmental organizations, the suit is led by the Biodiversity Legal Foundation (BLF) and the Northwest Ecosystem Alliance who found evidence that the FWS has not followed the recommendations of their own field offices to list the Lynx.

On December 27, 1994, the FWS, issued a "not warranted" finding in response to the BLF's formal petition to list the Lynx. The decision represented a surprising reversal of an earlier (July 18, 1994) 90-day petition finding by the Service that listing the Lynx was warranted. A thorough review of the administrative record for the case by the BLF revealed that the scientific community overwhelmingly supported the need to list and protect the Lynx under the ESA. This is of particular concern to conservationists, since it is one of the few cases in which the Washington, DC office of the FWS has reversed recommendations from biologists in both its Montana field office and its Regional office in Denver, both of which recommended the listing of the Lynx.

Apparently bowing to intense political and economic pressure, Secretary Babbitt and the FWS decided to forego their legal duties under the law. In the process, the FWS has given the green light for the US Forest Service and large corporate economic interests to continue the exploitation and destruction of some

of the last remaining wild areas in the nation. Federal protection for the Lynx would also provide additional habitat protection for other imperiled species such as the wolverine, fisher, gray wolf, and grizzly bear.

Jasper Carlton, Director of the BLF, summed up the situation saying, "The best scientific data available clearly indicate that the Lynx is threatened or endangered south of Canada. The Department of the Interior is apparently more fearful of the conservative Republican Congress than it is concerned about a threatened and severely imperiled native species." He added that "Secretary of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt, is forcing us to sue to enforce the legislative mandate of the ESA on behalf of the Lynx."

The Lynx is a medium-sized cat with long legs, large, well-furred paws, long tufts of fur on its ears, and a short, black-tipped tail. It is well-adapted to hunting the snowshoe hare, its principal prey, in open, mature forests. These mature conifer forests also provide the Lynx with windfalls and downed logs required for denning sites, protection from severely cold weather, and escape.

Historically, in the contiguous 48 states, the Lynx occurred in northern New England, the Great Lakes Region, the Rocky Mountains south to Utah and Colorado, and the Pacific northwest. It has suffered severe declines in both numbers and range. Presently, low density Lynx populations may exist only in Washington and Montana with scattered and severely imperiled remnant populations in Idaho, Colorado, Minnesota, and Maine. The species is already classified as threatened or endangered by the states of Colorado, Michigan, New Hampshire, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin, even though it has no federal protection. Only Idaho and Montana currently allow the trapping of the Lynx.

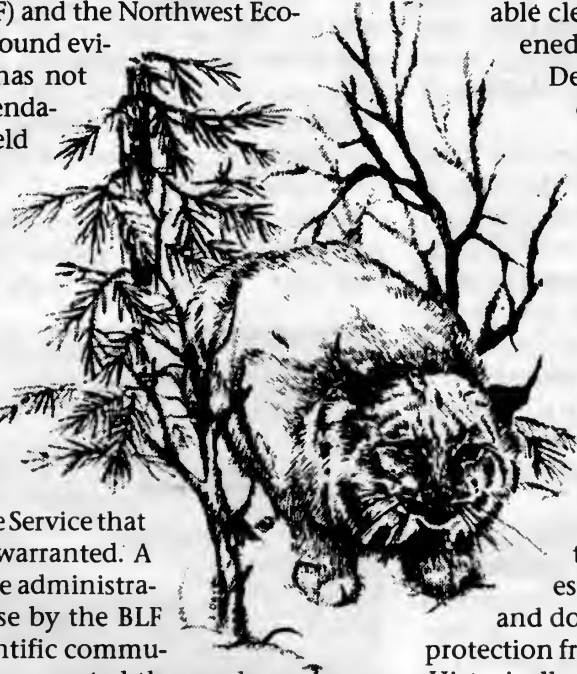
The Washington, DC office of the FWS incorrectly claims that historically the Lynx was never a common animal in the contiguous US and that there is no conclusive evidence of biological vulnerability or real threats to the species in areas where the Lynx continues to exist. Amazingly, the agency also denies that trapping poses any threat to the Lynx or that this activity has resulted in population declines.

Threatened by trapping, hunting, and habitat loss, the lynx has been forced into smaller, fragmented and isolated habitats throughout its range. Intensive logging and fire suppression has reduced or eliminated Lynx denning sites and prey habitat. Lynx movement corridors between Canada and the US are also being destroyed, making it difficult for the species to recolonize available habitat. Massive clearcutting, road-building activities and large scale recreational development projects by the US Forest Service are allowing increased human access into heretofore undisturbed areas, resulting in Lynx mortality.

State agencies, particularly in Montana and Idaho, are worried that federal listing would interfere with their plans to continue to allow trapping of the lynx and other species. As well, the US Forest Service and the timber industry have expressed concerns about potential restrictions on timber harvesting. Ski industry operators in the Rockies may also be nervous about how the listing would impact plans for ski resort expansion. In particular, the huge Vail ski area in Colorado, which is one of the last areas in Colorado where lynx have been documented, could be limited if the suit is successful.

The BLF prepared an extensive range-wide biological status review for the lynx before petitioning the Service for listing and has been at the leading edge of efforts to protect rare and endangered species and their ecosystems in this country.

To support the BLF's efforts to help the lynx and preserve of all native wild plants and animals, communities of species, and naturally functioning ecosystems, monetary contributions can be sent to: Biodiversity Legal Foundation, POB 18237, Boulder, CO 80308-1327.



ALASKA APPROVES WOLF BOUNTIES

On January 31, the Alaska House Resources Committee passed state Senate Bill 81. The bill, which has already cleared the Senate, places a \$200 bounty on wolves killed in selected areas of the state. It also reclassifies wolves from "big game" under hunting regulations and "fur-bearer" under trapping regulations, to the general "unclassified game" category. Unclassified game, which includes rats and starlings, are given no regulatory protections such as seasons and bag limits.

Testimony from Alaska Wildlife Alliance (AWA), Alaska Environmental Lobby and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) stressed that bounties are ineffective and subject to fraud. According to Wayne Regelin, Director of the Division of Wildlife Conservation, ADF&G, administration and enforcement of a bounty system would be "impossible to implement, unwise because of clear public opposition, and not in the long term interests of sound wolf management."

Sandra Arnold, Executive Director of the AWA, warned that passage of a bounty will bring heightened negative international attention to the state, increase the possibility of a tourism boycott, and erode public support for legitimate hunting and trapping. "Establishing a bounty is the surest way to paralyze wildlife management in Alaska and encourage federal intervention. The hunting and trapping community is

shooting itself in the foot," she said.

It is estimated that the Bounty Bill would cost the state approximately \$675,000 in general funds over five years. Alaska has established and then abolished wolf bounties three times in its history, citing expense, ineffectiveness and public distaste for the practice.

Representative Rambona Barnes said she supported the bill because she is worried about her "little dog" and all the "little dogs" throughout the state that she believes to be threatened by wolves. Ms. Barnes was referring to a recent mauling of a dog by wolves in the Anchorage area.

The bill must now be passed by the full House of Representatives before being forwarded to Governor Tony Knowles.

What you can do:

Please write to Governor Tony Knowles urging a veto of this infuriating legislation: Governor Tony Knowles, POB 110001, Juneau AK 99811; phone (907) 465-3500, fax (907) 465-3532.



LAWSUIT FILED TO PROTECT WOLF

On February 7, 1996, the Biodiversity Legal Foundation and the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity filed suit in United States District Court in Washington, DC to force U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to list the Alexander Archipelago Wolf of the Tongass National Forest as Threatened under the Endangered Species Act. This action is being taken in response to FWS repeated denial that biodiversity is under attack in the Tongass, despite ever-accelerating clearcut logging and roadbuilding.

The Alexander Archipelago wolf (*Canis lupus ligoni*) is a distinct subspecies of wolf occurring on the islands and mainland of Southeast Alaska, separated from other Alaskan and Canadian wolves by high mountains and the Gulf of Alaska. The main threats to the wolf center around habitat loss from logging and roadbuilding, along with the access that increased roadbuilding gives to hunters and trappers. Further, the loss of habitat threatens the wolf's main prey, the Sitka black-tailed deer, which is de-

pendent during winter on the sheltering characteristics of old growth forests.

The suit to protect the wolf joins one filed last year to protect the Queen Charlotte goshawk, which is also imperiled by massive clearcutting on the Tongass. Both species were denied ESA protection because FWS claimed that the Forest Service was planning to create Habitat Conservation Areas to prevent the need to list either. However, the Forest Service has yet to take even a small step in this direction, and it has been business as usual (TIMBER!) since the listings were denied last year. Even worse, the Salvage Rider contained a provision which prevented any protection for unlisted species except for a paltry 300 acres around each known goshawk nest, an amount with absolutely no scientific justification.

Even if the Forest Service had taken steps to protect the wolf and goshawk, the listing denial by FWS would be illegal. Because both species are imminently threatened by habitat destruction, as well as human-caused mortality for the wolf, listing them is required by law in order to ensure their survival. The ESA makes no distinctions between species that are or aren't being protected in other ways, and thus the deteriorating condition of old growth forests on the Tongass National Forest requires that both the Queen Charlotte goshawk and Alexander Archipelago wolf be listed, and critical habitat be designated immediately.

—SWCBD

ACTIVIST ALLIANCE GUNS DOWN BUFFALO SHOOT

BY LISA JENNINGS

In a far-reaching, precedent-setting case, Federal Judge Martha Vazquez ruled on January 26 in US District Court in Santa Fe that even the US Army has to abide by the law as set forth in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regarding a buffalo shoot scheduled for three consecutive weekends at New Mexico's Ft. Wingate. Judge Vazquez' ruling is proving to be a major blow to those at New Mexico Game and Fish who planned the shoot and who are not accustomed to having anyone tell them whom they can shoot and when.

Starting last November, Sangre de Cristo Animal Protection, Inc. (SdeCAP) began investigating NM Game and Fish's plans to shoot nine older bison among the herd of sixty at Ft. Wingate military depot, near Gallup. Out of 3,500 applicants for the kill, Game and Fish awarded bison killing rights to seven New Mexicans and two non-residents. From the beginning, Game and Fish seemed willing to conjure up just about any story imaginable to justify their planned trophy hunt. Among the dozen or so versions of the truth that we were told by Game and Fish, the one that they decided to maintain throughout our campaign was that the bison's teeth are worn down and they're going to starve to death. Of course, we were all deeply moved to learn of Game and Fish's sudden interest in the bison's welfare.

However, Game and Fish has never provided a shred of evidence to support their theory that bison are starving. Even if bison were starving, killing the older bulls as part of a trophy hunt is revolting. Clearly, those looking to put a new head on the wall were behind the planned shoot all along. The wife of one of the chosen shooters even said about her husband, "He'll hunt anything that stands on four legs that he can get a license for."

As the issue of the proposed shoot continued to capture the public's interest, Native Americans, conservationists, environmentalists and many others joined animal rights activists to establish a strong, broad-based alliance opposing the shoot. Many Native Americans have continued to vocalize their disgust over the shoot, calling it a slaughter and a continuation of the genocide of the buffalo and Native people. Adding insult to injury, it was discovered that a recently passed legislative Memorial (which has no legal weight, but reflects the wishes of the state legislature) instructed Game and Fish to negotiate with six New Mexico tribes specifically on the transfer of Ft. Wingate bison to their herds. These tribes are among the 39 different tribes which make up the Inter-Tribal Bison Cooperative, whose mission is to re-establish bison on Native lands. And while those of us involved from an animal rights perspective do not support Native American killing of bison (everyone in the alliance understood this), we all agreed that killing the buffalo for sport was wrong and that the shoot should be stopped.

For weeks before the first shoot date, the New Mexico media was covering

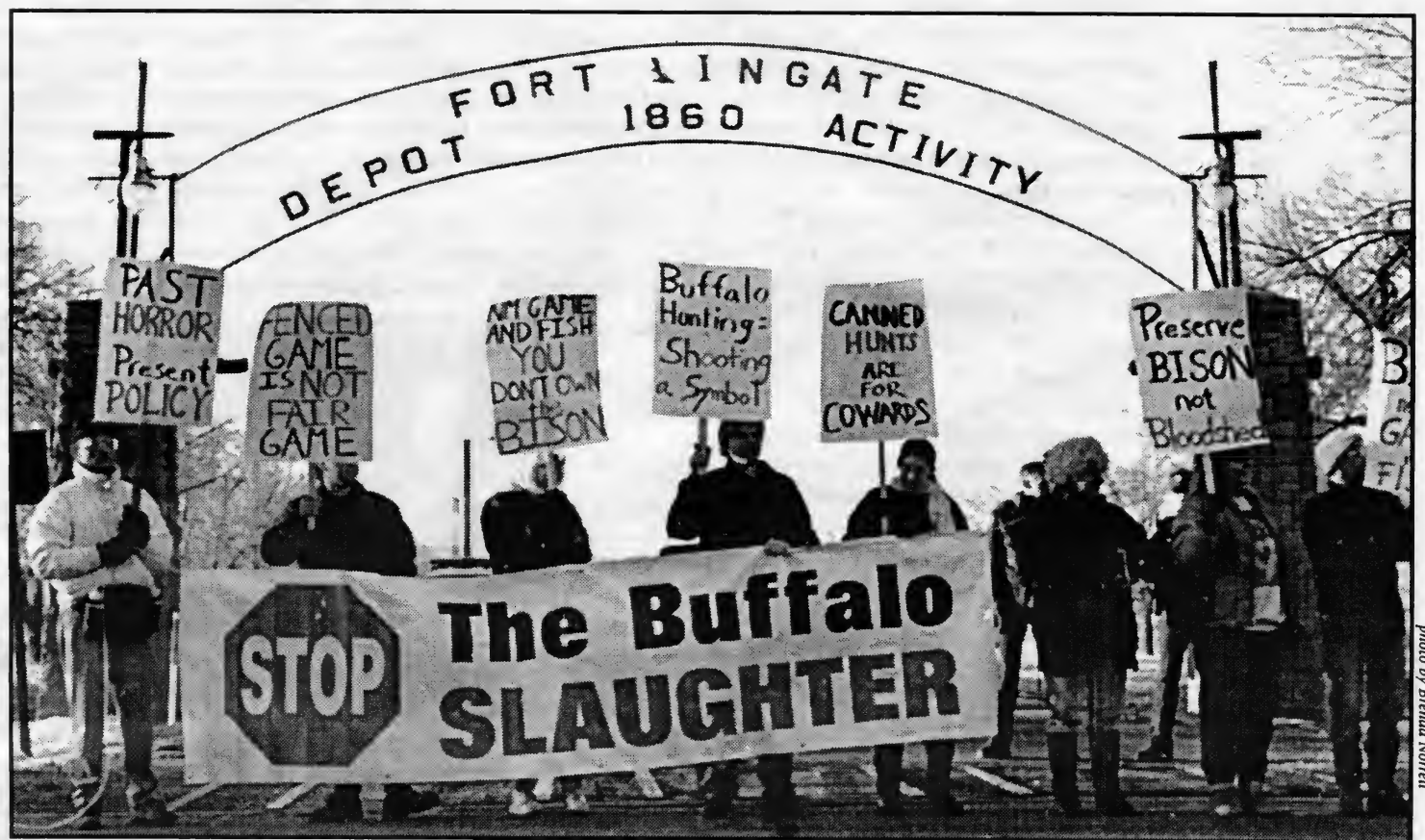


Photo by Brenda Norrell

the story with great enthusiasm. Navajo Nation President Albert Hale denounced the hunt publicly, Congressman Bill Richardson was listening to Native concerns about killing animals sacred to them, and we mistakenly thought that the Governor's office might actually be receptive to the public's concern. However, with the shoot date approaching and no cancellation forthcoming, we held a joint press conference at Picuris Pueblo's Hotel Santa Fe, followed by a boisterous but occasionally spiritual demo at Game and Fish headquarters in downtown Santa Fe. About eighty activists waved signs, chanted, and also listened as prayers were offered by a Taos Pueblo Native American. After about two hours of empowering free speech, the crowd marched one block to the State Capitol, which houses Governor Johnson's office. Activists were greeted by guards on the first floor, and were instructed that we could take in our signs, but our sticks had to stay outside! So we walked the stairs to the fourth floor and politely asked to see the Governor.

After about an hour of sitting in the lobby waiting for the Governor to return from lunch, we were told that the Governor's assistant, Lou Gallegos (a former Pete Domenici aide), would see us all. About sixty of us and several media people filed into a large room, filling its seats and any available wall space with bodies. The scene was impressive! Of course, we got nowhere with Lou. He was more interested in placating us and getting us out of his hair. All his promises to get us a meeting among Natives, animal activists and the Governor proved to be boldfaced lies. We shouldn't have expected anything else.

But we had not played all our cards. Just that morning, a lawsuit had been filed in federal court by the Fund for Animals, Sangre de Cristo Animal Protection, Inc., The Picuris Pueblo, The Inter-Tribal Bison Cooperative, and Dine CARE, stating that the US

Army had failed to comply with NEPA prior to allowing Game and Fish to conduct its hunt at Ft. Wingate. With our hearing date for a temporary restraining order (TRO) scheduled just one day before the shoot was to occur, we were furiously making backup plans for a predawn encampment and civil disobedience at the shoot site. Great sighs of relief were heard when we were granted a TRO for the first weekend shoot. While we were ecstatic about our temporary victory, about forty activists still made the trip to remote Ft. Wingate to bear witness with Native Americans to the terrible slaughter that had been narrowly averted the day before. Our pre-dawn vigil was later met by sleepy-eyed Sheriffs who refused our coffee and soup and who wondered why the hell we were there. About ten activists from Big Mountain, Arizona joined us later, making it clear that the proposed shoot was resonating across a large community.

Since that presence, we have prevailed in court again. Judge Vazquez Granted an injunction until the US Army conducts an Environmental Assessment (EA) of the hunt. (We have since been notified that the Army does not plan to conduct an EA unless the state pays for it). We were doubly rewarded when the Judge also awarded us attorneys' fees. Our courtroom victory was aptly captured by the media which noted, "Gerald Kohns, senior litigation attorney with the Army's Environmental Law Division, accompanied by assistant US Attorney John Zavitz and Army Major David Mayfield, retreated to a basement office in the courthouse and closed the door without comment."

While this ruling applied specifically to the bison hunt, we have reason to believe that it could have widespread impacts on all hunts conducted on military installations. We know of no hunt on military property for which an environmental assessment has ever been prepared, and we urge activists to

pursue this avenue in their efforts to stop other hunts conducted on military lands. Our research revealed that not only does the Army have to comply with NEPA, but they also have their own Army requirements for environmental assessment of proposed actions. In our case, we believe that NEPA's requirement of assessing the impact of the bison hunt on the "human environment" and evaluating viable alternatives to the proposed shoot are two very important aspects of the EA.

Nine bison have been spared and can live and die with dignity in the wild. In addition, this campaign has raised the much broader issue of how wildlife decisions are made in our politically dominated state. Astute individuals have seen through Game and Fish's shallow and unsubstantiated arguments justifying their lust for killing our state's wild animals. Game and Fish spin doctors have been working overtime to try to construct arguments that they hope will dupe the public. They continue to claim that opposition to the shoot comes only from a vocal minority. They conveniently ignore the results of a recent nationwide poll by ICR Survey Research Group from Media, Pennsylvania, which revealed that 51 percent of Americans believe sport hunting is always wrong. Game and Fish knows full well that if the Army conducts an EA, it will show that many non-offensive alternatives to the shoot exist and will cast serious doubt on the need to hunt the buffalo in the first place.

Lisa Jennings is Executive Director of Sangre de Cristo Animal Protection, Inc., 1201 Valencia NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110; (505) 265-2322. The bison campaign's primary investigator is a full-time intern named Ryan Sheehan, a senior engineering student on sabbatical from Washington State University in Seattle. Ryan answered our EF! Journal ad for interns last fall. SdeCAP thanks the Journal for helping bring such a tremendous activist our way!

GRIZ PLAN SPARKS CONTROVERSY

A new plan to reintroduce grizzly bears to north-central Idaho is pitting conservation biology against politics, and grassroots environmentalists once again against beltway environmental groups. The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) and Defenders of Wildlife (DoW) have teamed up with the timber industry to produce a reintroduction plan which, besides being discredited by bear biologists, could set a disastrous precedent for the Endangered Species Act (ESA). An alternative plan written by the Alliance for the Wild Rockies (AWR) and backed by independent conservation biologists has also been submitted.

The plans are included in the Bitterroot Grizzly Bear Reintroduction Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) now being prepared by the US Fish & Wildlife Service for release in the spring. This EIS is part of a larger recovery plan mandated under the ESA for the threatened grizzly bear.

The area under consideration for bear reintroduction is the Selway-Bitterroot region of north-central Idaho. The Selway-Bitterroot is part of the Greater Salmon-Selway ecosystem. This area offers perhaps the best chance left to preserve a fully functional, intact big forest wilderness in the lower 48 states. It is here that fisher and lynx, moose and goshawk, wolverine and wolves still roam. Even though largely extirpated by an unrelenting extermination campaign, grizzly bears, perhaps the finest indicator species of the quality of wilderness, are also thought by some to exist here.

Map analysis has revealed that approximately 15,800 square miles of undisturbed, undeveloped core habitat is available for griz recovery in the Salmon-Selway. This is the largest unroaded complex in the lower 48 states. Yet present US Forest Service plans call for a blitzkrieg of roadbuilding and logging in the Greater Salmon-Selway ecosystem, epitomized by the infamous Cove/Mallard timber sales. This sort of habitat fragmentation and destruction is the primary threat to the grizzly bear.

The proposal put forward by "Pretenders" of Wildlife, NWF and the timber industry does little to halt such fragmentation of habitat. Called the "ROOTS" proposal (ha!), it would relegate grizzlies to a 5,500-square mile area comprised largely of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. Existing Forest Service plans would serve as the basis of habitat management. The areas outside the 5,500-square mile area would be open to continued recreational development, grazing, mining and logging. This dread plan even exempts habitat destruction (timber sales, etc.) from being considered a "taking" under the ESA, in direct conflict with the favorable Supreme Court ruling in the Sweet Home spotted owl case.

The reintroduced population of bears would receive the designation "experimental, non-essential." In a nutshell, this means that people can blow bears away without the usual recriminations under the ESA. Any bears naturally recolonizing the area would also fall under the "experimental, non-essential" category, as would any grizzlies now living in the area.

Furthermore, the proposal would eliminate the consultation process under the ESA whereby actions which would affect the griz need to be examined. Management of the bear would be turned over to an appointed panel of local citizens (which would almost undoubtedly mean resource-industry representation).

The "conservation biology" alternative in the EIS, produced by AWR, is endorsed by top bear biologists. This proposal would retain full threatened status under the ESA for the translocated bears. The recovery zone would include the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness and adjacent roadless land—over 21,000 square miles of habitat. It would also relocate bears only from unthreatened populations of bears. The proposal calls for the reintroduction to be combined with road obliteration and revegetation efforts to restore griz habitat.

According to economist Michael Garrity of the University of Utah, this would create approximately 1,500 well-paying jobs for local citizens.

Criticism of the DoW/NWF/timber industry-backed plan has been intense. Jasper Carlton, Director of the Biodiversity Legal Foundation, characterizes the proposal as "shadow conservation," and a "license for habitat fragmentation." He blasts the plan for abandoning the multiple-species, ecosystem approach to preserving species which has been widely embraced by conservation biologists.

Writer/photographer George Wuerthner similarly condemned the proposal in a letter to the NWF point man on the

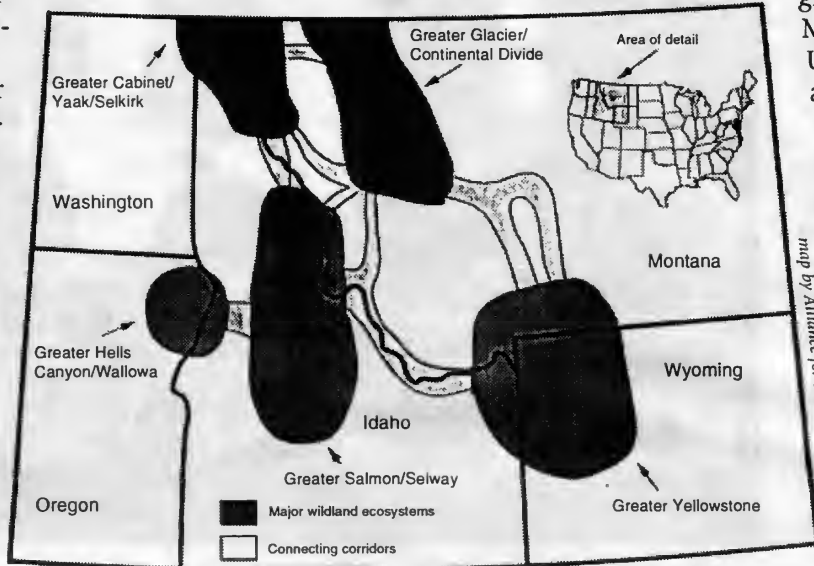
issue, Michael Roy. Wuerthner wrote "...your plan is based on political expediency, not grizzly bear biological needs... We need recovery in many areas well beyond the current boundaries of existing designated wilderness if we are to bring about full recovery. Your proposal gives people the impression that there is no need to protect this other habitat."

The word is that the fix may already be in for the DoW/NWF/industry proposal. For obvious reasons, this alternative is the most palatable to industry oriented politicians. Still, a strong showing of support for the AWR proposal could change this, or at least publicly expose the bias inherent in this process. No matter which alternative is chosen, the potential for precedent-setting is high. Your involvement is urgently needed.

Write to Chris Servheen, Coordinator, Bitterroot Grizzly Bear EIS, POB 5127, Missoula, MT 59806 to request to be put on the mailing list for the draft EIS.

When the draft comes out, it will be crucial to submit comments and voice support for the conservation biology alternative. This may be the first time that the government has reviewed a conservation biology-based regional reserve system proposal within an EIS. It is a tremendous opportunity for public education on these principles.

For more information contact Alliance for the Wild Rockies at POB 8731, Missoula, MT 59807; (406) 721-5420.



Approximate locations of core areas available for grizzly bears and linkage corridors connecting them. Scientists believe that if we maintain major subpopulations of grizzly bears, and link them with connecting corridors, we can recover a viable, self-sustaining population of grizzly bears in the Northern Rockies. In so doing, we can save hundreds of species, and the entire ecosystem.

map by Alliance for the Wild Rockies

SALVAGE COMES TO SAN BERNARDINO

BY LEEONA KLIPPSTEIN

The Transverse and Coastal Mountain Ranges of Southern California contain some of the most biologically diverse forest ecosystems in the United States. Unfortunately, little attention has been given to the beautiful and unique southern California forests by the environmental and scientific community.

The US Forest Service has proposed the Devil's Burn Salvage Timber Sale in the Rattlesnake Mountain area of the San Bernardino National Forest, California. The sale is situated in an ecologically significant area between the Cucamonga Wilderness and San Geronimo Wilderness, northwest of Big Bear Lake.

The Devil Burn Salvage sale proposes to cut approximately 1,500 cords of trees (6-8 cumulative square miles). According to the Freddie's, trees to be cut would be in "excess [of] the needs of wildlife, and would provide an opportunity for the public to utilize these fire-killed trees for firewood." Devil Burn Salvage will adversely affect public lands, forest ecosystems, riparian ecosystems, endangered and sensitive plant species through wood (tree) cutting operations and vehicle traffic.

The Forest Service notification letters are vague, arbitrary, capricious and fail to disclose appropriate or adequate biological information on which to base a sound scientific decision or

opinion. The Forest Service has not provided the public with a Timber Harvest Plan, Mitigation Plan or Conservation Plan.

Fires are a natural part of the ecological cycle of southern California forest ecosystems, stimulating the propagation of seeds and plants. Naturally decaying trees, burnt or downed, release nutrients into the soil and provide important nesting habitat for birds, mammals and insects. Fires also increase genetic resistance and fire tolerance in the populations of affected flora and microorganisms. Fires create a mosaic, allowing for greater wildlife diversity than in an homogenous forest. The removal of fire-injured trees and vegetation prevents natural recovery of the flora, fauna and soils. The "salvage" tree cutting operation and increased vehicle activity on existing and new roads within the area will cause detrimental fragmentation, soil compaction and erosion in the forest, riparian areas and wildlife movement corridors.

The Forest Service's harvest plan has identified three alternatives. Alternative one, the "no action" alternative, should be supported by the environmentalist community. For the Cougar, Bighorn, Black Bear, Spotted Owl, and endemic limestone plant species, please call and write to Gene Zimmerman, Forest Supervisor, San Bernardino National Forest, 1824 So. Commerce Center Circle, San Bernardino, CA 92408-3430; (909) 383-5588, Fax (909) 383-5770.

POTLATCH CORPORATION: TRUE TO ITS NAME?

BY JOSHUA ROEVER

On January 15, a contingent of Big Woods Earth First! activists caravanned up to Duluth, Minnesota to speak out against the salvage timber rider and Potlatch paper corporation's decision to double its Cloquet plant at the same time the Superior National Forest (NF) offers up 48 million board feet of "salvageable" timber.

We rolled into the Duluth Federal complex (home of the Superior NF headquarters) at 11:45 am, only to find our numbers matched by the local media. We chanted: "Save our forests! Save our jobs!"—with two news crews filming eagerly. Our spokesperson, Thomas, was interviewed, finally ending the silence in northern Minnesota over the "lawless logging rider." Feeling our message had been heard, we filled our gullets at the Bread Bowl and drove on to the "city of trees," Cloquet. (Most of the trees we saw were stripped of their bark, in immense stacks behind Potlatch's gate.)

Outside Potlatch's main gate, we were immediately met by two security goons who proclaimed, "You need to move, you're on private property." Not in the mood to spend the day in jail, we peacefully made our presence known on the other side of the road, handing out information to several supportive Potlatch employees when the shift changed.

With a joyous, joking spirit (despite a -30°F windchill) we decided to quickly trespass and pose for a group picture in Potlatch's manger scene. I couldn't help but think about Potlatch's name—Northwest Indian Cultures practiced a ceremony called the Potlatch, in which an individual would express his/her social standing in the community by giving away all personal wealth. Of course, we weren't surprised in the least that the only "wisemen" at Potlatch were our plastic friends in the manger scene.

Overall, our mission was a success—not only did we receive favorable news



Big Woods Earth First! howls at Superior National Forest Headquarters.

coverage, but we had a hell of a time! We encourage Potlatch board members to contact us about a possible "give away"—we would be delighted to pay their workforce to restore the Northwoods instead of stripping it of trees and creatures! As always, our pack seeks fellow Minnesota "wolves" to howl with—contact Big Woods Earth First! at (612) 624-3326.

ASSAULT ON THE ALLEGHENY!

BY JAMES KLEISSLER

The Allegheny National Forest is nestled amongst the Allegheny mountains of northwestern Pennsylvania. For years, the United States Forest Service has been hacking at the Allegheny National Forest timber sale by timber sale. Last year, Earth First!, Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC) and Preserve Appalachian Wilderness (PAW) activists from across the region formed the Allegheny Defense Project and began to increase pressure on the Forest Service by assaulting each and every timber sale with hordes of relentless letters.

The coalition was making progress, but last spring the government fought back. It launched its own plan by dropping not just one or two timber sales on our laps, but ten projects all at once! Amid this rush of timber sales the Forest Service released the Tree Mortality Analysis. The Tree Mortality Analysis was some six to eight times the size of a normal project. The theme was poor forest health which, of course, needed to be remedied through salvage logging. The project slipped by with only a handful of public comments, and has been implemented by the Forest Service. By the time this project is completed, about 5,000 acres of forest will have been logged. But that's not all. On March 8, Allegheny National Forest Supervisor, John "the walking, talking bulldozer" Palmer, signed the scoping notice for Mortality II (the sequel, I suppose). This time we're ready, but we need your support.

Mortality II calls for 5,705 acres of logging. That's 4,534 acres of salvage logging (thinning and overstory removals) and 1,171 acres of what Fred-dies like to call "green" logging. What's worse is that this timber sale is a

complete scam! They claim that they discovered these areas of poor health, after compiling the previous mortality sale, through aerial photographs, etc. However, if one simply overlays the maps of both projects one finds that most of the areas to be logged in Mortality II are not only adjacent to sites in the original project, but in some cases even overlap them! How is it that they missed these areas before? It seems they are trying to make the project appear less destructive by splitting the sale in two.

We need letters of help and we need them now! Please write and tell them that their plans are a sham. Demand that a project of this size receive an Environmental Impact Statement and that public hearings be called. Logging dead and dying trees (and trees that they speculate are susceptible to death) will not help the forest recover. Send your

letters of protest to Carl Leland, Ridgeway Ranger District, Allegheny National Forest, RD #1, Box 28A, Ridgeway, PA 15853. Be sure to mention that your letters concern the Mortality II timber sale. You can also call the Ranger District at (814) 776-6172.

The Allegheny Defense Project is also planning on attending the second annual Allegheny National Forest Forum. This horrid event was organized last year by the area's largest wise use group. We don't have many details on this year's event but we need a stronger presence. Last year we found ourselves outnumbered by timber execs and Freddie's 10 to one. Immediately following the forum we are planning a field trip to monitor another timber sale.

If you would like to help out with our campaign, please contact Susan Curry or Jim Kleissler, 801 E. Main St., #3, Bradford, PA 16701; (814) 362-2342.

IM SO PLEASED TO SEE YOU
MADE A COMPLETE RECOVERY
BACK TO FULL HEALTH...



THE FOREST SERVICE VISITS THE
SALVAGE RIDER CEMETARY

ADC OCCUPIED

BY PATRICIA WOLFF

Seven New Mexico activists were arrested and taken to jail February 22, after a four and a half hour sit-in at the US Animal Damage Control (ADC) office in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The occupation of the ADC office was held to protest a coyote-killing project on the Gila National Forest and to focus attention on the ADC program in general. ADC exterminates thousands of coyotes and other animals considered "pests" by the ranching and agricultural communities every year.

The action started at 10 am, when activists walked into New Mexico ADC director Alex Lara's office, sat on the floor and announced their intentions to occupy the office until their concerns were addressed. With them were a legal observer and a freelance photographer. The activists gave Lara a written statement and a list of their demands, which included an immediate halt to all ADC wildlife killing on the Gila National Forest and the immediate removal of all traps, snares, M-44's and other killing devices already in place. They also asked for public hearings and a 30-day public comment period on the proposed coyote-killing project. Lara complied with the activists' request that their statement and demands be faxed to Bobby Accord (ADC head-honcho) in Hyattsville, Maryland.

During their peaceful sit-in, protestors read aloud from the Wildlife Damage Review report entitled "Waste, Fraud and Abuse in the US Animal Damage Control Program." The sit-in also featured various anti-ADC signs and a toy fox with its front paws in a steel-jawed leghold trap. Reporters from four television stations, as well as an Associated Press reporter and photographer, covered the event.

At approximately 2:30 pm, Director Lara made a press statement offering to meet with the protestors, but nothing more. Since ADC refused to stop the coyote-killing on the Gila and refused to allow public comment on the project, the activists announced they would continue their sit-in until they were arrested. They were promptly charged with criminal trespass and disorderly conduct, handcuffed and taken to jail. After sitting in the jail parking lot for two hours, the activists were taken before a federal magistrate judge who lectured them but then offered to drop the charges if the activists behaved themselves for six months. The activists accepted his offer and were then released on their own recognizance.

FRIENDS OF EARTH BLOCKADE TRAIN

WOODCHIP OPERATION STOPPED IN ITS TRACKS

BY ANTHONY AMIS

In the early hours of October 10 at Tottenham Railway Yards in Footscray, Australia, over 30 activists from Friends of the Earth Forest Network (FoE) staged a three-hour blockade of the Bairnsdale "Extinction Express." This train travels from East Gippsland to the Midways woodchip mill in Geelong, where its cargo of massive old trees are chipped and exported to Japan.

Interestingly, the passenger train from Melbourne to Bairnsdale was canceled earlier this year due to state government concerns about track safety, yet only a couple of months later the train line was reopened solely to transport timber. Four people were arrested at the action which gained national media coverage.

Local sawmillers from the Bairnsdale region have been outraged to learn that Midways export woodchip mill is buying timber from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) for less than \$5 per ton; yet Midways sells timber back to the sawmillers for \$50 per ton. Friends of Earth argues that because the timber is sourced from old-growth forests, it shouldn't have been harvested in the first place. Moreover, why is Midways getting such good private financial deals from the state government when they are dealing with what is essentially a public asset?

As well as blockading trains, the FoE Forest Network has held actions in the past few months against both the Victorian Association of Forest Industries (VAFI) and the Minister of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), Geoff Coleman.

FoE helped organize a forest rally on October 22 where over 1,500 Victorians braved torrential rainfall for over three hours. On October 26 and 27, FoE, along with the Native Forest Network and the FoE Anti-Uranium Collective organized large actions outside and inside the annual general meetings of North, formerly North Broken Hill, and Amcor, who are the largest exporters of hardwood woodchips in the world, in addition to exporting uranium to France. At the Amcor meeting, activists handed shareholders a letter with a blue woodchip attached, and the caption "Your Blue-chip is an Amcor Woodchip."

Other actions included one at the offices of Burson-Marsteller, the multi-national public relations company who greenwashes on behalf of a variety of evil corporations, and a third action at Midways woodchip mill in Geelong in late November. This Midways action was attended by 50 people from around Victoria, including two Aboriginal elders from the Kerrup Jmara in western Victoria who gave a Koori perspective about what our relationship with the land should be. The action got a lot of media and upped public scrutiny of this huge woodchipping company.

Friends of Earth has also been busy in court opposing the large fines imposed on forest activists arrested last year a giant blockade. Protestors allege that the DCNR was acting illegally by logging this



forest area. Results so far indicate that the magistrate remains unconvinced, but the case is likely to be appealed. Friends of Earth was also in court in Geelong after 11 activists were arrested at the Midways mill in July.

FoE Forest Network activists, along with the Goongerah Environment Center Office (GECO) have also been planning direct action blockades in the forests of East Gippsland this summer, as well as working on the Federal Governments Deferred Forest Agreement process, which proposes to protect 15 percent of old-growth forests (pre 1750). For East

Gippsland, this will mean the protection of about 15,000 hectares of forest while 250,000 hectares continue to be destroyed. And they wonder why we're not happy!

On the eve of a forest blockade in East Gippsland, some \$300,000 worth of logging machinery was set alight. Peter McGauran, Shadow Minister for Resources and Energy, condemned "those responsible" calling on FoE and GECO to prevent such destructive acts from recurring. McGauran conveniently failed to mention the possibility that industry-backed saboteurs might want to discredit the green movement by committing arson.

In addition to this, police broke up a two-month forest blockade at Yandown Creek in the early hours of November 28.

Seven protestors were arrested at the site and all their possessions damaged. Five more arrests followed the next morning at a forest blockade, as well as one on Friday, December 1 at the office of Conservation and Natural Resources in Orbost. The police have also raided the premises of GECO, confiscating all videos held at the environment center, as well as "searching" five houses in Goongerah, looking for evidence of eco-sabotage.

Meetings with the Forestry Division of the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU) have yet to bear fruit, yet the ongoing dialogue has been useful in establishing a mutual understanding about the complexities of the forest debate. FoE have been encouraged to hear from a new generation of union organizers who come from a different perspective than those currently in power. However the union approached FoE with the demand that if forest protests are to occur in working coupes, then the possibility of union blockades at the FoE building should not be discounted. The union did blockade the office in March this year and FoE members are rather skeptical of the union's current "concern," considering that the New South Wales (NSW) branch of CFMEU helped send in "heavies" to break up a forest blockade in northern NSW in mid November.

From all indications this summer will definitely be extremely interesting. People wanting to get involved with the forest campaign should contact FoE for details. Our address is Collingwood POB 222, Fitzroy 3065, Australia.

Bombs (Go) Away!

The Australian Defense Department wants to locate their East Coast Armaments Complex (ECAC) at Point Wilson in Victoria, Australia—an area of international significance for migratory shorebirds and the winter home for about 50 percent of the world population of the critically endangered orange-bellied parrot.

The Navy would store and maintain ammunition and guided weapons for their East Coast Fleet at the ECAC, and its port would be used to load ammunition to and from warships and to import explosive weapons and missiles. It would eventually occupy over 1,000 hectares of land.

Point Wilson is part of the least disturbed coast in western Port Phillip Bay and is of great ecological value. The area is a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention, aka the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance. Many species and many thousands of migratory shorebirds—listed under the Japan-Australia and China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreements—use the Point

Wilson area. These birds take advantage of the rich supply of marine organisms in the area to strengthen themselves for their annual migration to the northern hemisphere and New Zealand. Ironically, the Australian Government is hosting the next international Ramsar Conference in Brisbane in March 1996, while at the same time planning to store bombs and missiles at Point Wilson. ECAC makes a mockery of these international obligations.

The salt-marsh of the area is the winter home for the orange-bellied parrots that migrate every year from their breeding grounds in Tasmania. Most of the salt-marsh has been destroyed by past development. It provides a range of plants that supply food to the parrot over the winter period. Only about 150 to 200 of this species exist in the wild and it is listed under the Commonwealth's Endangered Species Protection Act.

After fires at the port and chemical storage terminal in August 1991, the Coode Island Review Panel recommended its relocation to West Point

Wilson, as the site with least potential environmental impact on the western shores of Port Phillip Bay. This site was subjected to an environmental effects assessment process until the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments decided, behind closed doors, to locate the ECAC at Point Wilson, and to shift the proposed chemical facility to nearby Point Lillias, which is much more environmentally and culturally significant than West Point Wilson.

The Commonwealth has never carried out an open inquiry into the best site for the ECAC. They have lurched from a bad process for Jervis Bay in New South Wales (this was the Defense Department's first choice for an ECAC and was thwarted due to public opposition) to a worse process for Point Wilson. The Commonwealth set up a Commission of Inquiry to study locating the ECAC at Point Wilson but was constrained from looking at alternative sites. The need for an ECAC has not been justified in view of the significant environmental damage that would result at Point Wilson, and the

threats posed by continued storage of chemicals at Coode Island.

Write to Prime Minister, the Honorable Paul Keating, c/o Parliament House, Canberra 2600, Australia and ask him to ensure that an ECAC is not built at Point Wilson.

Write to the Secretary Director of the Ramsar Convention Bureau, Mr. Delmar Blasco, Rue Mauverney 28, CH-1196 Gland, Switzerland, advising that an armaments complex represents an 'unwise use' of the Australian Ramsar site #18—Port Phillip Bay (Western shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsula. Also request that this wetland be placed on the Montreux Record of sites under threat from development.

For further information on the 'Say NO GO to an ECAC at Point Wilson' campaign, contact Australian Conservation Foundation, Environment Victoria, Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace Australia, Hazardous Materials Action Group, or The Combined Environment Groups c/o 340 Gore St. Fitzroy, 3065 Australia; (03)9416-1166, fax (03)9416-0767.

Belize Suffers Corporate Clearcutting

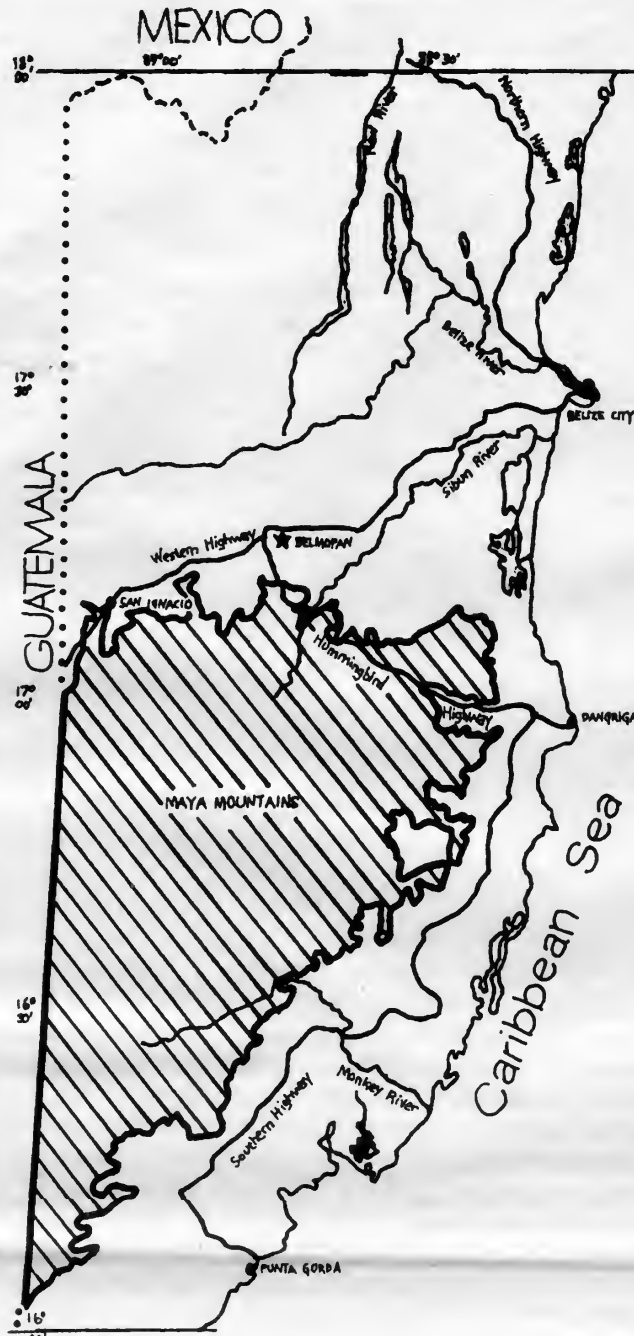
BY GARTH KAHL

The Toledo District of southern Belize contains one of the largest remaining rainforests of Central America. The Maya mountains, which lie at the center of this vast roadless area, have remained unsubmerged and relatively unaltered through at least the last two ice ages, and are thought to have provided a refuge from which various species recolonized Central America following these disturbances. The area was designated as forest reserve land in 1954 due to evidence of an unusual level of endemic species of plants found in the region. Within the last month, Atlantic Industries (AI), a multinational timber corporation of Chinese origin, has begun logging mahogany and tropical cedar in the area, despite the strong opposition of the local Mayan people and local forest ecologists.

The current agreement with the Belizian government will allow the company to log 100,000 acres over the next 40 years. AI has made at least two previous attempts to log this area, in 1993 and 1994, and was forced to stop due to widespread public protest. The Mayan people of the Columbia and Monkey River Basins, north and northwest of Punta Gorda (see map), have been organized to fight this threat for some time, but have received little attention from the government, as Maya are at the bottom of the social order in Belize's multi-ethnic society. Native people have been protesting the logging, with signs reading, "Don't rape our virgin rainforest, we must keep it alive to survive."

These people are very impoverished subsistence farmers, yet they are united in their opposition to the project, despite the usual promises of money and economic development disseminated by its proponents. A group of Mayan village mayors, known as the Alcalde Association, recently met with the Prime minister, and were promised only token concessions. Afterwards there were reports that "all the talk is of 'red light in the bush' (Belizian for monkey wrenching)."

The villagers have proposed an alternative economic approach to the utilization of the Toledo District's natural resources. This includes development of organic cacao as a cash crop, selective harvesting of timber, and increased promotion of



tourism. These plans are viable, profitable, and would contribute to the environmental, social and economic health of Belize as a whole. Cacao is a crop proven to be compatible with the maintenance of the forest's integrity. Because cacao grows best as an understory plant, organic cacao plantations leave much of the forest canopy in place. Thus areas of cacao cultivation can serve as profitable green buffer zones around the intact, roadless virgin forests. A local cooperative of farmers has already succeeded in securing established markets for organic cacao in the US and Europe. Tourism is another proven economic alternative to logging, as it already provides sixty percent of Belize's current national income. The "Maya Homestay Program," a local enterprise already in place, allows eco-tourists to stay in local Mayan households while visiting the jungles and ancient ruins. This logging concession will damage not only the environment of southern Belize, but also the profitability of these sustainable economic ventures, in addition to damaging the whole country's reputation as an ecotourism destination.

International support is crucial in stopping this attack on the forests and local people. Please write to Belizian Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel, and Minister of Natural Resources Dito Juan. Belize is very conscious of its reputation as a leader in ecotourism, and heretofore has been relatively sensitive to environmental concerns. Local organizers request that letters be respectful, and stress the viability of organic cacao and programs like the "Homestay Program" as alternatives to the exploitation of ancient forests by foreign corporations.

Please address your letters to Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel, Office of the Prime Minister, Belmopan, Belize, Central America; Dito Juan, Minister of Natural Resources, Office of the Minister of Natural Resources, Belmopan, Belize, Central America.

For more information contact the Organic Commodities Project, Attn. Stephanie Daniels, 2 N. Main St., Ipswich, MA 01938; (508) 356-7714. In Belize, contact Will Mehia or Charles Wright, Belize Center for Environmental Studies; 501-7-22111.

Brazil Reverses Indigenous Rights

On January 8th, Brazilian President Fernando Cardoso signed a heinous new law that could open indigenous reserves to commercial exploitation. The law, Decree number 1775, also compromises the already slow process of establishing indigenous reservations by permitting commercial interests to challenge the demarcation of indigenous land. The new law is a negation of indigenous people's rights, previously guaranteed in Brazil's constitution. This action parallels what occurred in the United States during the 1800s, when the government forced

Native Americans from their traditional lands to allow for commercial extraction of timber, oil, minerals, and other resources.

Decree number 1775 will likely lead to new encroachments onto the gold-rich land of the Yanomami, Guarani and other peoples who have struggled for years against outside development. In 1993, machete-wielding miners, set on exploiting the region's gold deposits, invaded a Yanomami village and murdered sixteen indigenous adults and children. In 1995, more than 50 Guarani youths committed suicide, most by hanging, as a desperate response to encroachment on their land. Due to the lack of sufficient arable land, most Guarani have been forced to work in conditions of virtual slavery on cattle ranches or sugar cane plantations. Over two hundred other indigenous reservations in Brazil face similar challenges.

"Decree number 1775 delays the demarcation of new indigenous reservations, and challenges the legitimacy of existing ones," says Beto Borges, Amazon campaign coordinator for Rainforest Action Network. "This will likely cause a new assault on the Yanomami territory by gold miners and other commercial interests, and may lead to violence. It's the Wild West all over again, this time in the rainforests of Brazil. We

must do all we can to overturn this potentially genocidal law."

According to the indigenous organization Council for the Unity of Brazilian Indigenous People and Organizations (CAPOIB), 16 Indigenous areas are already suffering invasions which began in the two weeks following the decree. Says a CAPOIB spokesperson, "The current government has made a strong commitment to anti-Indian political and economic groups... In Brazil, Indians are under a death sentence, this time supported by a sociologist [President Cardoso]."

The Yanomami recently held an assembly to organize resistance to politicians and economic interests that are working to annul Yanomami land rights. The Indians also decried the devastating effects of continued invasion by gold miners who pollute the rivers and forests, and introduce disease. Since 1987, nearly twenty-five percent of the Yanomami population has been wiped out by contagions carried by the unwanted colonists.

Article number 231 of Brazil's 1988 constitution recognizes the inalienable right of indigenous people to their ancestral lands and natural resources, and guarantees their right to exist as distinct cultures. In 1991, Decree number 22 strengthened the language in the constitution by further delineating the primacy of indigenous rights over competing interests, and enforcing the demarcation of indigenous reservations based on aboriginal habitation.

Contact the Rainforest Action Network: 4505 Sansome, Suite 700, San Francisco, CA 94111, USA; (415) 398-4404, fax (415) 398-2732.



LAST WALTZ FOR THE BLUE DANUBE

BY BÉLA LIPTÁK

As the melting snow runs down the slopes of the Alps, it is collected into the mighty Danube river. As the river reaches the Hungarian plains, it slows down, spreads out into hundreds of rivulets and deposits its detrital material into thousands of little islands. The name for this region in Hungarian is Szigetkoz (island-region). This region, which used to be the delta of the Pannon sea, has survived since the last ice age and, over the millennia, has developed a totally unique fauna and flora. This marvelous ecosystem is dying today. Death comes because there is little rainfall here and the marvelously rich vegetation depends on the ground waters that have now disappeared.

According to a World Wildlife Fund report published in 1995, the ground water level in the Szigetkoz region has dropped from two to ten feet. The nation of Slovakia caused the drop in ground water when, in 1992, it unilaterally rerouted the Danube from the border onto its own territory and into a sealed canal to build the Gabčíkovo hydroelectric dam. The newly democratic governments of Hungary and Slovakia have developed fundamentally different attitudes toward this legacy of Stalinist gigantomania. Hungary sided with the environmentalists and has withdrawn its support, while the ultra-nationalists in Slovakia viewed the pilfering of the border river as a means of building a greater Slovakia and went ahead with the project unilaterally and illegally. To them, this white elephant of nature-transforming gigantomania was not objectionable. It did not bother them that hydroelectric plants make little sense in the lowlands.

The consequences go beyond the environment. As the fruit trees of the Szigetkoz are dying, so are the spirits of the people. Their bank-filtered wells have dried up and now drinking water has to be trucked to some villages. When the rich farmlands and orchards disappear, fewer water trucks will be needed as these villages become ghost towns, monuments to a cynical and prodigal age.

One of Europe's largest drinking water reservoirs is under the Szigetkoz. The old riverbed has been turned into a semi-stagnant sewer, and the poisoning of this reservoir is only a matter of time. Szigetkoz wetlands' drying up has not only destroyed the habitat of some 200 species, but has cut the oxygen supply of the river as well. As a result, the water quality of the Danube has plummeted, endangering the water supplies of Hungary and other downstream nations.

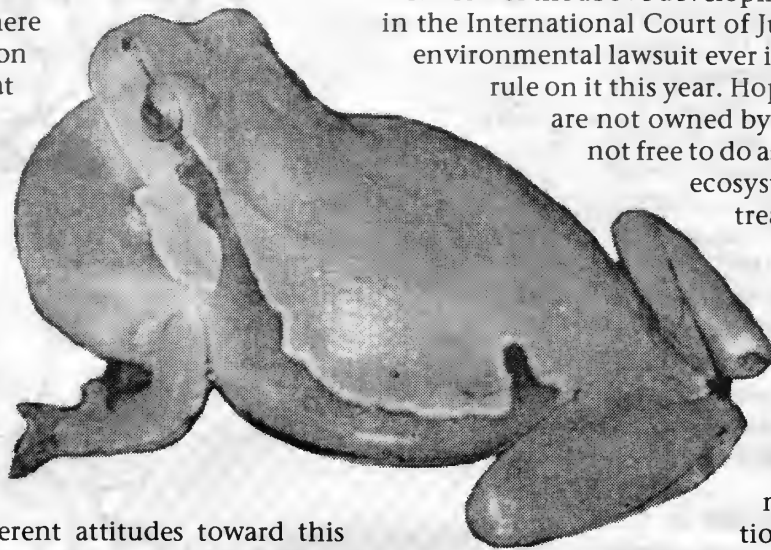
In 1992 the Slovak construction lobby argued that the dam will eliminate the need for nuclear power and will improve shipping. In 1995, however, Slovakia announced completion of a Chernobyl-type nuclear power plant at Moravce. As for improved shipping, at the time of this writing, shipping is at a complete standstill, because both sluices of the dam are broken. In one, the crown gate has collapsed due to under-sizing, while the other was not designed to handle ice. I visited the structure in February, 1996 and found the whole structure leaking. The 200 million cubic meters of water, dammed to an elevation of ten stories, are nothing less than a major accident waiting to happen.

In view of the above developments, Hungary is now suing Slovakia in the International Court of Justice in The Hague. This is the first environmental lawsuit ever in this court. The court will probably rule on it this year. Hopefully, the court will rule that rivers are not owned by nation states, that nation states are not free to do as they please with them, and that the ecosystems of this planet are the common treasure of all humankind. In this precedent-setting lawsuit, the court should also find that upstream nations are not free to exploit and pollute rivers which are the drinking water supplies of downstream ones. Even more importantly, the court should allow the representatives of the allied international environmental organizations to act as a third party and should consider the Compromise Plan which is a blueprint for resolving this conflict.

The Compromise Plan states that after reconstruction of the now dangerous structure, Slovakia would gain year-round shipping, while receiving the same amount of electricity as today. Hungary would have its border river and the groundwaters of the Szigetkoz restored. The broader region would have its shipping and drinking water protected, while the international community would show that its institutions can guarantee the survival of critical ecosystems and can resolve conflict without resorting to violence. In addition, the Compromise Plan would create a tri-national nature-preservation park, which would also become a European Free Zone—an area where the inhabitants can move freely without passports or visas.

Please write to the Court and urge them to hear a detailed presentation of the Compromise Plan. Contact the Honorable Mohammed Bedjaoui, President of the International Court of Justice Carnegieplein 2, 2517 KJ, Den Haag, The Netherlands; fax 011-70-3649-928.

Béla Lipták is a former Yale professor, the editor of the Environmental Engineers' Handbook and the author of Municipal Waste Disposal in the 1990s. Contact him at 84 Old North Stamford Road, Stamford, CT 06905; (203) 357-7614.



BY ALEC SMART

On Valentine's Day, Brighton, England played host to a festival against pollution and traffic congestion when environmentalists staged a Reclaim the Streets demonstration.

A gathering of several hundred people met at a location across town, and split into three groups. Two of them trekked off in opposite directions to confuse and decoy the hundreds of police on duty. The third made its way toward the pre-organized location which only several people knew of in advance. Tripods were erected at either end of North Street in Brighton's semi-pedestrianized North Laines area. Police swooped on them immediately, making several arrests. Drummers began beating African rhythms as the Chief Constable gave a warning to clear the area within ten minutes or face arrest.

Then the second group from the decoy run arrived, numbers became critical, and the party began in earnest. Police just contained the mass, preventing bypassers from joining in. An inflatable bouncy castle for children was soon installed in the middle of the road,

then a candy-floss machine. A lot of parents with kids joined, many dressed up for the event. A neighboring musical-instruments shop lent out their equipment for a rock band to set up and play; the health food store provided electricity and food.

For three and a half hours people partied, drummed or jumped on the bouncy castle. Around 4:15 P.M., as things were winding down (drummers drifted off, the castle was deflated) the police moved in and viciously beat those remaining, herding them up side streets as they tried to provoke a riot. Some people retaliated, throwing bottles and bricks, and the peaceful festival became tarred in the Sussex Evening Argus newspaper as a violent civil disorder.

Thirty-six people were arrested, most were released after processing, and the "Justice?" campaigning group has begun a move to make police accountable for their actions. On the whole, most people regarded the day as a success. Sympathies are extended to the police constable who was made to hand his candy-floss back after his

superior officer admonished him.

Another Reclaim the Streets demonstration in Brighton is scheduled for early summer. If 300-plus celebrated in mid-winter, who knows what the numbers may swell to when the warmer weather arrives.



"Snog" is what one does in the backs of cinemas.

Photo by Alec Smart

PROTESTS PERSIST AGAINST NEWBURY BYPASS

BY ROMEO ALPHA, RANDY GHENT AND LALA

In the ongoing battle against new roads in England, the Newbury Bypass is the road that, if constructed, would cause the most destruction of any that protestors have tried to stop.

At Newbury, located in Berkshire, 100 miles west of London, protestors have built concrete "lock-ons" (millstones to which activists handcuff themselves), underground tunnels equipped with food and supplies for weeks, and 50 tree houses connected by rope walkways. The largest tree house, dubbed the "mothership," houses a kitchen and sleeps 30.

Road builders abandoned work January 9 and 10 after protestors blockaded 400 security guards into their farmyard base and surrounded heavy machinery used to clear trees for the bypass. Then construction crews took the weekend off while protestors flooded in from across the country. Direct action has continued nonstop ever since.



Outnumbered...

As of February 29, only 10 percent of the bypass had been cleared of trees, with just five and a half weeks left of the clearance contract to run. On March 8, the Highways Agency gave the contractors an indefinite extension because of the protests.

Just 30 miles and three years down the road from Twyford Down—the infamous birthplace of the British direct-action anti-road movement—road fighters are calling their group the Third Battle of Newbury. The first and second battles there were fought by Oliver Cromwell's Roundheads against the Cavaliers during the civil war, which eventually deposed the monarchy. Three centuries later, today's activists at Newbury are fighting a different sort of monarchy—the car culture's dominance over transport policy.

In October 1995, ex-roads minister Robert Key said the government would never build a road like the M3 at Twyford Down again, yet the A34 Newbury Bypass slashes through even more "protected" areas. The Newbury Bypass would bisect wildlife and heritage sites, including three Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs): the Rivers Kennet and Lambourn and Snelmore Common (a proposed SSSI), the River Kennet floodplain, two civil-war battlefield sites, Rack Marsh Nature Reserve, the Chase National Trust land, 12 archaeological sites, numerous woodlands and the grounds of a nationally renowned school for the deaf.

This is the first direct-action anti-road campaign that had extensive preparation before the bulldozers moved in. Several thousand have signed the "Beat the Bulldozer" pledge list, and organizers have activated a full-scale nationwide "aruga" (emergency call-out).

This road scheme is impossible to justify on either environmental or transport grounds. The only straw the government keeps clutching is that "local people want it." This has never been proven. In fact the only (and very recent) survey conducted by local business people—fed up with being spoken for by big business and politicians—found that out of 500 local businesses, 70 percent opposed the road. If any local people do "want" the A34, then it's because they have never been offered anything else, and have been sold the lie that the road will solve all

their problems. But a group of leading Newbury business people declared its opposition to the bypass at a January 16 press conference. The group says the bypass may even worsen traffic congestion.

There is an obvious traffic problem in Newbury—the same as any British town. Single-occupant cars clog up the road at rush hours. The 1960s "relief road" has long since filled up, with the town sprawling around it. The Department of Transport's age-old mentality has said, "Don't bother sorting it out, just build yet another road."

Fortunately, as the *Independent* recently reported,



photo by Alec Smart

Who's having more fun?

"Britain's transport policies are to be drastically overhauled, as the Government's much-vaunted roads program runs into the sand. Ministers have privately decided to produce an official White Paper, which will mark the abandonment of the all-out promotion of the 'great car economy' instituted by Margaret Thatcher. The re-assessment comes as ministers become seriously rattled by the furor over the building of the Newbury bypass."

As this goes to press, the direct action part of the campaign is nearing an end, with over 400 arrests and only two tree houses remaining. The authorities have been using professional climbers to pluck protestors from the trees. These climbers have been banned from a couple of climber training facilities and were openly chastised and asked to leave the largest annual climbers' gathering in Britain. In spite of this, enough climbers have cooperated with police to expedite the dismantling of the tree house camps.

All totaled, the bill for security during the protests was more than 1,100,000 pounds.

Even if the base camps do not survive, all is not lost. On March 9, hundreds of archaeologists gathered to speak out against development in a contested landscape. Because they make much of their living excavating sites pre-development, archaeologists had never before spoken publicly against schemes like Twyford Down and Newbury that tear the cultural landscape to bits.

On March 10, people put nesting boxes in trees along the route because trees with nesting birds must be protected.

You can still help because the construction company that may build the Newbury bypass has not yet been chosen. Please write or send a fax to the chief executives of the companies bidding for the building contract. Cut traffic, not trees.

Peter Mason—AMEC PLC, Sandiway House, Hartford, Northwich, Cheshire CW8 2YA, UK; Oliver Whitehead—ALFRED MACALPINE PLC, 8 Suffolk St, London SW1Y 4HG, UK; Alan Lovell—COSTAIN GROUP PLC, 111 Westminster Bridge Rd, London SE1 7UE, UK; Colin Busby—KIER GROUP PLC, Tempsford Hall, Station Rd, Tempsford, Sandy, Bedfordshire SG19 2BD, UK; John Gains—JOHN MOWLEM & CO PLC, White Lion Court, Swan St, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 6RN, UK; Neville Simms—TARMAC PLC, Hilton Hall, Essington, Wolverhampton, West Midlands WV11 2BQ, UK.

For more information, contact Third Battle of Newbury, POB 5520, Newbury, RG14 7YW, UK; Friends of the Earth, 56-58 Alma St., Luton, Beds, LU1 2PH, UK; or visit their website at <http://www.foe.co.uk/action/newbury/action.html>.

This article is being printed simultaneously in *Auto-Free Times*, POB 4347, Arcata, CA 95518.

Radicals Rounded Up in UK

BY LESLIE HEMSTREET

After a long campaign of harassment against environmental and animal rights activists, British authorities simultaneously broke down doors of homes and offices all across the United Kingdom on January 16. The raids resulted in six arrests including four editors of Britain's most militant eco-newspaper, *Green Anarchist*; the editor of the *Animal Liberation Front's Supporters Group Newsletter* (SG); and the press officer for the Animal Liberation Front (ALF). Despite the arrests occurring hundreds of miles apart, all six activists were taken to one of two neighboring police stations and were charged with conspiracy to incite criminal damage by publication.

This charge was used to temporarily suppress SG in 1988 by jailing its editor for two years. In 1987 an ALF activist got a ten-year prison sentence for the same charge.

All of the raid victims have been released on conditional bail but are wasting huge amounts of time on their cases that could otherwise be spent on activism. To make matters worse, the police have seized much of SG's equipment, including the main computer, which they refuse to release, claiming they need it as evidence.

Additionally, the Animal Rights National Index, the national police squad responsible for suppressing animal liberationists and militant greens, has accused the *Green Anarchist* editors of inciting an arson wave by the Animal Rights Militia on the Isle of Wight in 1994. The paper did nothing but report the incidents after the fact, just like the rest of the press. Apparently, under the law, they don't even need to write anything in particular to incite acts of animal liberation, they just have to sound generally sympathetic.

All six arrestees are scheduled to appear before a Magistrate on April 17.

One intention of the raids was to stop production of the *Green Anarchist*. A good way to show solidarity with those people working on the magazine is to subscribe. For details write to Lancaster Bomber, c/o BCM 1715, London, WC1N 3XX, UK. If you would like to purchase a single issue write to Autonomie Dirsto, POB 791191, New Orleans, LA 70779-1191 or Wind Chill Factor, POB 81961, Chicago, IL 60688.

Another way to support the activists is to send donations to the Bust Fund c/o *Green Anarchist* at the same address as the Lancaster Bomber above.

For more information, contact Rabbix, BM Heal, London, WC1N 3XX, UK.

Chemical Warfare Headed to Missouri

BY JILLIAN BORCHARD AND ERIC HEMPEL

On February 5, the Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC) in Missouri kicked off a campaign opposing the US Army's transfer of their Chemical Weapons Training School from Fort McClellan in Alabama to Fort Leonard Wood in the heart of the Ozark Mountains and the Mark Twain National Forest of Missouri. The Chemical Weapons Training School involves obscurant training, chemical decontamination training and radiological training, all of which pose severe threats to human health and the environment.

Obscurant training means playing war games in zero visibility and requires the use of fog made from oil similar to 20 weight motor oil. The Army has received a permit to use 65,000 gallons of fog oil per year. The Missouri Clear Air Commission had to grant a special waiver of the state's opacity regulations to allow the permit to be issued.

Chemical decontamination training involves the use of equipment that has been contaminated by highly toxic chemicals to be manufactured at Fort Leonard Wood. The contaminated equipment would be "destroyed" in a hazardous waste incinerator that is deceptively called a Thermal Treatment Unit by the Army, thus avoiding the strict regulations that are required for a hazardous waste incinerator. The permit for the Thermal treatment Unit was issued without public review.

Additional environmental concerns associated with the Chemical Weapons School include impacts to the endangered Indiana bat and the Ozark cavefish. A major bat cave is located in Ft. Leonard Wood and their numbers have dwindled from 20,000 to under 1,000 over the last ten years, probably due to a reduction in water quality. The cavefish is also in decline and is dependent on bat guano for survival. Fog oil and toxic chemicals will pollute the nearby Big Piney, Gasconade and Roubidoux rivers, thus impacting the recovery of these endangered species and contaminating the drinking supply.

The campaign kick-off began with a press conference held in St. Louis featuring representatives from SEAC, Coalition for the Environment, American Friends Service Committee, Citizens Against US Imperialism, and SNAIL (a coalition of St. Louis high school environmental groups). Students then went to Jefferson City, Missouri's state capitol, where others were already meeting with the Air Pollution Control Division of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). At noon, students and other concerned citizens gathered on the front steps of the state's capitol to hold a rally. Television news coverage described the event as a group of angry students, while simultaneously showing close-ups of smiling faces.

The meeting with the Missouri DNR air quality group and those of us representing SEAC was held to discuss the permits they had granted to the Army. The DNR supervisor was asked about the record speed at which the applications were reviewed and the permits written and approved. He assured us that it was not a "rush job" and that no corners were cut. This, however, is contradicted by the fact that the pressure to meet the Army's deadline was so great that the permit team had to be tripled in size and work overtime on nights and Saturdays. When asked who was pressuring the team to write the permits in such a hurry, we were told it was the head of the DNR, David Shorr, who was appointed by the Governor.

The next line of questions concerned the wolf in sheep's clothing: the Thermal Treatment Unit. We were assured once again that no corners were cut and that if the facility should have been classified as a hazardous waste incinerator, it would have been. This finding has been appealed by numerous public interest groups. When

questioned about the emissions from the incinerator (which include dioxin), we were told that it is a "non-air-pollution issue" because of the low level of the emissions.

The discussion then turned to the smoke from the obscurant training. In a poor attempt to comfort us, we were told that fog oil is much like baby oil. Yet the Army's own

testing of the oil reveals lethal, mutagenic and physiological effects on living systems—baby oil indeed! The DNR also outlined the strict guidelines the Army is supposed to follow when using their smoke generators, and attempted to convince us of their ability and authority to regulate the Army's actions. However, we question the ability of this agency to enforce the regulations since the Army has apparently commandeered DNR authority on several regulatory issues.

Our final question for the DNR was to find out how they consider their actions to maintain a healthy environment. To this they replied, "We have the job of allocating the air and water resource, you can use it a little and you can pollute it a little. We are not in the business of maintaining pristine air and water." Does that raise the hair on your neck, or what!?!

Please help: The DNR claims that because the permits are under appeal, we cannot have access to their records. Freedom of Information Act requests are being filed for all available public records. Please encourage the DNR to cooperate with the concerned public and to protect, not pollute our National Forest. Write to David Shorr, Director, Dept. of Natural Resources, POB 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176.



SEWAGE DUMPING THREAT IN SoCAL, CONT...

continued from page 7

of California's Natural Reserve System (UCNRS). Most of the marsh was destroyed to make open ponds for ducks so that hunters could easily blast their unlucky prey. These ponds are now the possession of the IRWD and are part of their insidious plan to grow aquatic plants they claim will remove residual nitrogen and phosphate from their gray water, thus supposedly making it clean enough to dump into the San Diego Creek and thus the Back Bay.

The public appreciation of the Back Bay and marsh must certainly have been in the minds of the IRWD when they were contriving to purge themselves of their sewage water. Their first transparent plan was to take part in what still exists separately as the "Marsh Enhancement Project," which was to examine and implement a much needed restoration of the marsh area. When the IRWD

realized that the hired consultants were actually planning a well-thought-out restoration they came up with their own heinous plan to dump their effluent through the UCNRS marsh. Appropriately, UCNRS pulled out of the plan and told the IRWD they didn't want to see a single drop of reclaimed sewage in their reserve. As a knee-jerk reaction, the IRWD came up with a tactic well known to those familiar with California's environmental review process, CEQA (the California Environmental Quality Act), they wrote a "negative declaration," claiming that nothing bad would happen if they dumped all their excess treated sewage into the Back Bay. This plan, however, didn't go over well with biologists and citizens, as well as the California Department of Fish and Game. The IRWD soon realized they would have to do a full-blown CEQA Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project they Orwellianly call "The Wetlands Water Supply Project." This plan puts a fig leaf over the naked truth, claiming the project is necessary to provide open water for migratory waterfowl when it's actually just a pollution dumping project.

Folks, I'm afraid to say that even with massive public opposition and participation in the EIR process, the EIR is now complete and accepted in the eyes of the IRWD. (CEQA allows them to approve their own EIR!) It is expected that the necessary permits from the Regional Water Quality Control Board and California Department of Fish and Game will soon be granted, allowing construction to begin and the first trial runs to be made.

The most frequently voiced concerns about the project include the increase in nitrogen loading, the effect of the vastly increased freshwater flow to the bay, and the safety to humans and critters from viruses remaining in the "treated" sewage (there is a public beach in the Back Bay). These concerns were dismissed regardless of how many times they were mentioned at public hearings and in written comments.

The most organized opposition to the IRWD's plans now comes from a group of citizens called Defend the Bay who are currently educating people and the media, and are ready to file a lawsuit challenging the project if final efforts to stop it fail. They were influential in obtaining the backing of the City of Newport Beach whose city council unanimously oppose the IRWD scheme.

If the IRWD is allowed to go through with altering the natural processes of the Back Bay what estuary is safe? A horrible precedent is set with this project and it must be stopped!

To help and/or donate money or if you have information about similar problems in another estuary contact Defend the Bay at 471 Old Newport Blvd., Suite 200, Newport Beach, CA 92663; (714) 722-7822.





Endangered Species On Trial

Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC)

March 1996

The Last Stand for Headwaters Forest and Endangered Species

In the coastal ranges of northern California, the tallest of all living beings – the ancient redwoods – are crashing towards extinction. Myriad creatures depend on these dense canopies, clear streams and rich soils for their continued survival. Ancient forests provide some of the last refuges for endangered species, and set the stage for raging battles over property rights, biodiversity and the enforcement of environmental laws designed to protect endangered species and their habitat.

The Headwaters Forest area encompasses 76,000 acres in the Elk River and Salmon Creek watersheds, and includes the pristine 3,000-acre Headwaters Grove – the last unprotected ancient redwood forest on Earth. The majestic ancient trees of Headwaters have thrived undisturbed for thousands of years. Today this ancient forest is owned by corporate predator Charles Hurwitz of Maxxam Corporation, who threatens to log the ancient groves for profit. The fate of Headwaters and the marbled murrelet and coho salmon who depend on its giant trees and pristine streams rests with the persistence and creativity of the grassroots environmental movement and the enforcement of environmental laws.

The predicament of Headwaters exemplifies the plight of wilderness at the hands of the current US Congress, which is hell-bent on dismantling the Endangered Species Act and evading laws with salvage riders and other anti-environmental legislation.

Headwaters Forest demonstrates why species need a strong Endangered Species Act (ESA). The federal Act, authorized by a bipartisan vote in 1973, is often called the nation's premier environmental law. The intent of the law is straightforward:

"Congress finds and declares that various species have been rendered extinct as a consequence of economic growth and development untempered by adequate concern and conservation.... The purposes are to provide a means whereby the ecosystems upon which endangered species depend may be conserved."

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is the federal agency entrusted with listing species, designating critical habitat, developing and implementing recovery plans, and enforcing the law.

Most citizens like to believe that the ESA is sacred and inviolate, and that an effective government and scientific team is hard at work ensuring that North America's heritage of diverse wildlife flourishes for the benefit of future generations. In fact, species protection has been floundering since Congress failed to reauthorize the Act in 1992. The reauthorization process has been hijacked by the Republican revolt, with bad bills introduced to repeal or seriously weaken the landmark legislation. Under political pressure, the FWS attempts to forge compromise "solutions" with industry which allow business as usual to continue, circumventing the ESA and destroying habitat. Meanwhile, because the Clinton administration and regulatory agencies like FWS continually fail to enforce the Act, watchdog groups like EPIC are forced to seek protection for endangered species in the courts.

The Fish and Wildlife Service Guts the Act

When the FWS figured out that the courts and activists were going to enforce the ESA with or without them, it decided to replace the Act with its own regulations. The FWS has quietly erected its own corporation-friendly shadow ESA. First it guaranteed habitat loss with economically driven Habitat



"Save Headwaters Forest" poster by photographer Doug Thron, available in full color from EPIC. See back page for ordering information.

Conservation Plans on private lands, and then it dismantled the listing process. Enforcement of the ESA – including protection of listed and candidate species, development of recovery plans, and designation of critical habitat – has been halted by a combination of budget cuts, political maneuvers, and policy reforms at the agency level.

Early in 1994, the FWS placed a moratorium on adding species to the endangered list. Conceding to an exaggerated assessment of the economic costs of conservation, the moratorium was touted as a "cooling off" period designed to appease opponents of the Act. This strategy of conceding ground at the opening of negotiations has become a full-scale retreat from the intent of the ESA, crippling its effectiveness.

Under Clinton, the FWS has prioritized delisting species which has halted research on many candidate species that would eventually lead to listing. FWS unilaterally dropped its Candidate Two and Three lists, eliminating more than 4,000 vulnerable species from consideration for listing. Then

the FWS decided to deny listing petitions for Candidate One species unless the petitions present new information unknown to the agency. This doesn't make sense since a Candidate One species, by definition, is already known to merit threatened or endangered status. Under the new rules, the agency can decide existing evidence is not conclusive and close the books on many species.

FWS has also begun signing Memorandums of Understanding which authorize states and counties to decide if development projects adversely affect species. Projects are freed from ESA requirements in favor of voluntary "conservation agreements" which seek to "balance conservation and development goals." These so-called Habitat Conservation Plans legalize the taking of endangered species and the destruction of critical habitat.

FWS is also proposing to exempt many public projects of the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management from ESA oversight, and to make review by FWS discretionary. The moratorium on listing species, abuse of the HCP process, and delegation of authority to state governments are making it increasingly difficult for public input or citizen lawsuits to ensure adequate species protection under the ESA.

The political climate of the 104th Congress does not bode well for the Act and the species it strives to preserve. The salvage logging rider and other anti-environmental riders attached to budget bills aim to dismantle decades of environmental protections. Despite the loopholes in the ESA, it is the major legal mechanism to protect endangered species.

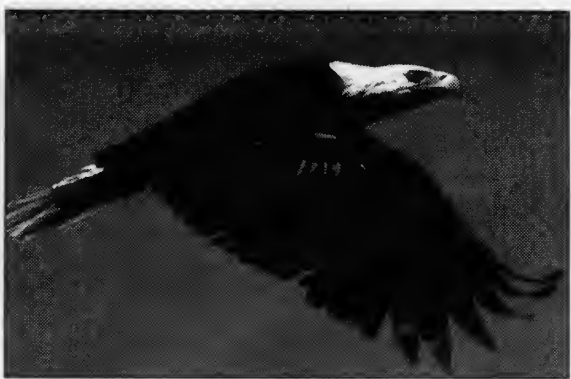
As Congress and Big Business try to gut the ESA, it is important for grassroots environmentalists and biodiversity experts to rally for a stronger Act. Corporate greed and the agencies' failure to enforce the law have destroyed countless ecosystems and brought species to the brink of extinction. There is a lack of leadership and unity among the national environmental groups. It is up to the grassroots to demand a strong ESA that expedites listing species, designates critical habitat and develops recovery plans when species are listed, ensures adequate funding for conservation activities and strengthens enforcement provisions.

Legislation and economics can change, but

EXTINCTION IS FOREVER!



The September 15th rally for Headwaters Forest at the Pacific Lumber/Maxxam mill in Carlotta, CA. 264 were arrested in peaceful civil disobedience, the largest in the history of the US forest preservation movement. Photo: Northcoast Environmental Center



The recovery of the bald eagle is often trumpeted as a success story of the ESA. In fact, bald eagle and peregrine falcon populations have risen because of a DDT ban, not the ESA. Photo: Adrian Dorst

The Biodiversity of Headwaters Forest

Headwaters Forest, now owned by Maxxam Corp., contains the last unprotected ancient redwood grove on Earth. It is prime habitat for many species, including the threatened marbled murrelet.

A diversity of habitats exists in the Headwaters Forest, including lowland riparian forests, ancient redwood forests, upland prairies, oak woodlands, residual old-growth redwood and Douglas fir, and second-growth stands. They are home for a variety of animals, plants, and microorganisms.

The streams that flow from Headwaters to Humboldt Bay are still home to native runs of threatened coho salmon and steelhead, and imperiled amphibians such as the Pacific giant salamander, tailed frog, and Olympic salamander. The mammals that live in Headwaters include the California black bear, Pacific fisher, mountain lion, coyote, black-tail deer, flying squirrel, and red tree vole. Birds include the northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, osprey, goshawk, and migratory and resident songbird populations. Tree species in the forest include coast redwood, Douglas fir, grand fir, western red cedar, Pacific yew, western hemlock, madrone, red alder, tanoak, California bay laurel and vine maple. An abundance of plants and ferns blankets the forest floor.

These old-growth forests contain mycorrhizal fungi, invertebrates and microorganisms that cannot exist in cut-over forestlands. Many of the species found in Headwaters are listed by the state and/or federal government as endangered or threatened, and others are candidates for listing.



Roosevelt elk used to roam the redwood region in large numbers. Now they are primarily found in parks. Elk River, as the name suggests, once provided habitat for an abundant herd. A small herd is rumored to still exist there. Photo: Tom and Pat Leeson

Give or Take

The Endangered Species Act and the



In California 45 percent of threatened northern spotted owls live in mature forests on nonfederal lands. In order to achieve recovery of the owl it is imperative to protect the species on both public and corporate lands. Here a spotted owl perches in Headwaters' Owl Creek Grove. Photo: Doug Thron

Rare Animals of the Ancient Redwood Forest

- California red tree vole
- Northern flying squirrel
- Pacific fisher
- Pine marten
- Roosevelt elk
- Townsend's western big-eared bat
- Coast cutthroat trout
- Coho salmon
- Del Norte salamander
- Foothill yellow-legged frog
- Northern red-legged frog
- Northwestern pond turtle
- Torrent salamander
- Tailed frog
- Bald eagle
- Cooper's hawk
- Golden eagle
- Great blue heron
- Great egret
- Marbled murrelet
- Northern goshawk
- Northern spotted owl
- Osprey
- Peregrine falcon
- Purple martin
- Ruffed grouse
- Sharp-shinned hawk
- Vaux's swift
- Yellow warbler
- Yellow-breasted chat



EPIC petitioned to list the southern torrent salamander because forest practices destroy its habitat. Photo: EPIC files.



Just 100 years ago, the ancient redwood forest spanned more than two million acres. The Salmon Creek and the Little South Fork of the Elk River, shown here, were some of the very last wild populations of coho salmon in California. Photo: Doug Thron

Saving Headwaters Can Help Save the Co

Coho (silver) salmon are born in fresh water, migrate to the ocean as juveniles, then return as adults to their natal streams to spawn. The historical range of coho salmon on the West Coast includes coastal rivers and streams from Alaska to northern California. In California, the naturally spawned adult coho salmon population has been reduced to approximately one percent of its historic size, which was approximately 200,000 to 500,000 in the 1940s.

The coho salmon is joining the marbled murrelet and the Northern spotted owl as a grim reminder of the ongoing destruction of our coastal forest ecosystem. Activists are uniting across the Pacific Northwest to protect and restore the forest habitat which once supported magnificent runs of salmon. One hundred years of managing strictly for resource extraction has been disastrous for the coho. This failure to protect salmon habitat has been an economic disaster. As recently as the 1970s, California's coho fishery produced over 70 million dollars a year. Since 1994, commercial coho fishing has been shut down.

Coho are dependent on cool, clear, sustained flows and the stable structural elements of streams in old-growth forests. More than 106 native Pacific salmon stocks are now extinct, and 214 more are at risk of extinction. Causes of the declines in

coastal coho loss of stream water quality grown coho

One of C salmon runs pristine anci River forests

3,000-acre H remaining n land. Protec to a viable re

Because delayed listin Northwest, a sued NMFS manner as r violated the judge accept which the co that would r species with

The pine marten was once bountiful in the redwood region. It was among the thousands of species awaiting listing as threatened or endangered which were recently dropped by the US Fish & Wildlife Service. Photo: Tom & Pat Leeson



Clear, clean streams like this in the Headwaters Forest provide critical habitat for many rare species. Photo: Greg King



The northern flying squirrel is not just the cutest critter in the old-growth forest; it helps cycle nutrients by eating lichen and is in turn a primary food of the northern spotted owl. Photo: J.W. Grace, USFS



This well-camouflaged northern spotted owl is a mo

and Phot

Save a Species

the Ancient Redwood Ecosystem



million acres. Today less than 100,000 acres remain. The watersheds from their source in the Headwaters Forest to Humboldt Bay, support coho salmon. Photo: Doug Thron/Lighthawk

the Coho Salmon in California

coastal coho populations include degradation of habitat due to loss of stream-side vegetation, filling of wetlands, decline in water quality of small streams, and competition from hatchery-grown coho salmon.

One of California's five best wild, naturally spawning coho salmon runs faces extinction from the potential logging of the pristine ancient redwoods of Headwaters Forest and the Elk River forests downstream. The Elk River originates within the 3,000-acre Headwaters Grove, and supports California's best remaining natural wild run of coho salmon spawning on private land. Protecting the remaining healthy runs of coho is crucial to a viable recovery effort.

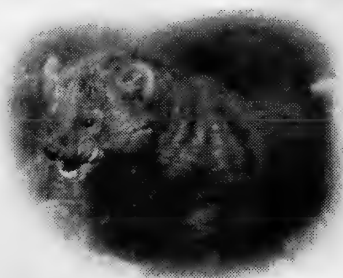
Because the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) delayed listing coho salmon as threatened in the Pacific Northwest, a coalition of 27 fisheries and environmental groups sued NMFS in federal court to force the listing in a timely manner as required by the ESA. The judge ruled that NMFS violated the ESA by failing to list the species. However, the judge accepted the lengthy NMFS timeline to list the species, which the coalition is appealing, in hopes of setting a precedent that would require federal agencies to respond to petitions to list species within the two-year framework outlined in the ESA.



The red tree vole spends its whole life in the tree tops of ancient forests. Photo: Mike Wotten, courtesy of the Burke Museum

King

Camouflaged tailed frog is among the oldest species of amphibians left on the planet. It lives in rushing streams under ancient forests. Photo: EPIC files.



The Pacific fisher, a medium-sized member of the weasel family, prefers the old-growth forests which provide critical habitat for its prey and shelter from its predators. Photo: USFS



The marbled murrelet was a plaintiff in EPIC's victorious federal lawsuit which established that habitat modification constitutes a "take" and the Endangered Species Act does indeed apply to corporate lands. Photo: Gus Van Vliet

Last Unprotected California Stronghold of the Marbled Murrelet

The threatened marbled murrelet is a small seabird which flies inland to nest on the mossy limbs of old-growth trees. During the past century California's murrelet population dropped from 60,000 to approximately 6,500 individuals. Pacific Lumber's (PL) ancient redwood groves in Humboldt County are one of three remaining nesting areas in California.

PL recently developed and submitted a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for the marbled murrelet on its land. The HCP is essentially a 300-page timber harvest plan, under which PL proposes to cut all 7,654 acres of known old-growth murrelet habitat on its property over a 35-year period. This includes all of the old-growth and residual forests in the Headwaters Forest area.

Biologist C.J. Ralph states, "I have seen no bird as closely tied to a forest type. They are entirely dependent on old growth." According to Ralph, the murrelet's reproduction in California is too low to keep up with mortality, and the probability of extinction is high. According to biologist Kim Nelson, "The location and habitat characteristics of the Headwaters Forest, coupled with the fact that little suitable habitat remains in the historic range of the species in California, make the acquisition and preservation of the Headwaters Forest key to the survival and recovery of the murrelet in California."



Once a living symbol of California's wildlands, the grizzly bear no longer roams the state. Now the grizzly can only be found on the state flag and statues like this, which someone aptly painted "EXTINCT." Photo: David Cross

"Habitat Conservation Plans" Legalize Habitat Destruction

In 1982, the federal ESA was amended to allow the US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) to issue "incidental take permits" to habitat-destroying industries which submit Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs). This legalizes the killing of endangered species and the destruction of habitat, provided that the real estate tycoon or timber baron filing the HCP pays for restoration of damaged areas and attempts to restore nearby lands. Corporations that profit from transforming viable ecosystems into tract housing, clearcuts and tree plantations can hardly be trusted to initiate habitat restoration. What may have seemed like the beginning of community-based solutions to conflicts with development has become one of the most powerful tools with which developers and the timber industry can evade the ESA.

To strengthen the Act and protect species, EPIC proposes that the section of the ESA allowing HCPs be repealed. Failing repeal, FWS should rename the HCPs "Habitat Depletion Compromises" and add the following essential provisions:

- 1) Give citizens greater access to HCP planning and implementation.
- 2) Decisions on proposed boundary modifications should be based solely on maximum likelihood of ensuring recovery and survival of the species in the wild.
- 3) Measurable and quantifiable recovery goals must be stated in the "incidental" take permit and in the HCP. Projects which fail to meet measurable goals and deadlines should be canceled.
- 4) Independent scientific monitoring and evaluation of the HCP applicant's performance should be funded by the FWS, not the developer.
- 5) HCPs should protect species at all life stages and in all behaviors.

Inalienable Rights for All Species!

In order to fulfill the Endangered Species Act's purpose of returning species to biologically sustainable population levels, serious changes to the ESA are needed in the following areas:

Funding: The budget for the Fish & Wildlife Service is currently only \$80 million per year, less than the cost of one mile of urban freeway. The Act should establish permanent, adequate base funding for listing, enforcement, recovery and habitat protection efforts.

Species Listing: End the moratorium on listing new species. Expedite the normal listing process for new threatened and endangered species. Emergency listing should be mandatory, not discretionary. When the Secretary of the Interior fails to meet a listing deadline, a species should be listed automatically.

Endangered Species on Private Lands: Seventy percent of threatened and endangered species are on private lands. Species know no ownership boundaries. The ESA should strive for ecosystem protection and unequivocally apply this approach to private lands.

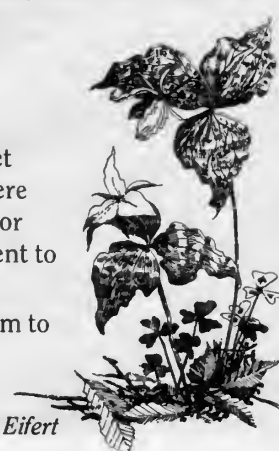
Habitat Degradation: "Harm" to listed species should be expressly defined in the statute to include habitat modification or degradation which poses a risk to species by impairing essential wildlife behavioral patterns.

Citizen Suits: Remove the present 90-day delay to allow immediate filing of lawsuits in any case where there is an emergency posing a significant threat to the well-being of any protected species.

Amendments to the ESA: The 104th Congress tried to pass a rider on an Interior Appropriations bill that would have made it nearly impossible to protect marbled murrelet nest sites. Congress should change its rules to ban riders.

Enforcement: Pacific Lumber blatantly violated the ESA by logging in marbled murrelet habitat in the Owl Creek grove. They made millions from the illegal logging and were never fined. Increase violation penalties beyond current maximum of a misdemeanor where government officials or private landowners show a continuous pattern of intent to ignore biological considerations.

Recovery Plans: Recovery plans must be enforceable, not just advisory. Plans should aim to increase numbers of endangered species, not just maintain existing populations.



Trillium by Larry Eifert

Support EPIC's Work to Protect Headwaters

P.O. Box 397, Garberville CA 95542
TEL: (707) 923-2931 FAX: (707) 923-4210
epic@igc.apc.org • http://165.247.202.35/epic

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Every time Pacific Lumber tried to move on the headwaters of Salmon Creek and the Little South Fork of the Elk, EPIC went back to court, never failing to secure a temporary injunction and winning every trial yet held. Garberville's home-grown environmental organization was sorry it didn't stop Charles Hurwitz from cutting the rest of his trees, but it took pride in having kicked his ass in court and keeping the largest stand of all intact.

Rolling Stone

from "The Last Stand" by David Harris, Feb. 96

Debt for Nature – Jail for Hurwitz!

In 1985 the Texas-based Maxxam Corporation orchestrated a hostile takeover of family-owned Pacific Lumber (PL) using junk bonds. Almost immediately, Hurwitz nearly tripled the rate of cutting ancient redwoods to pay off the loans and junk bonds used to finance his corporate raid. If there was any doubt about Hurwitz' intentions, it was cleared up when he raided the employee pension fund and told PL workers, "There is the story of the golden rule: he who has the gold rules."

Since the takeover, Headwaters Forest has been under siege. Lawsuits, direct action, and legislation have hampered logging but ultimately failed to curb Maxxam's ravenous appetite for redwood lumber. Now the fate of the largest unprotected redwood forest in the world may rest in the hands of an unlikely savior, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). On August 2, 1995, the FDIC filed a \$250 million claim against Charles Hurwitz, CEO of Maxxam, which condemns his business practices and his "pattern of deceptive financial reporting." The claim is based on Hurwitz' role in the \$1.6-billion failure of United Savings Association of Texas, a looted Savings and Loan which required bailout by American taxpayers.

Environmentalists call for a "Debt for Nature" swap in which the government acquires Headwaters in partial repayment of this debt. Can the FDIC stop the forest from falling victim to corporate greed? The redwoods of Humboldt County are a long way from the boardrooms of Houston, the Wall Street stock exchange, federal court, and the marble halls of Congress, but the FDIC claim could determine whether Headwaters Forest survives.

MAXXAM

In December of 1995 the federal Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) filed civil charges against Charles Hurwitz and former directors and officers of two Texas savings and loans that went bankrupt after they were taken over by entities that Hurwitz controlled. OTS filed 13 separate charges of violating federal regulations and engaging in unsafe and unsound practices. The government suit is seeking unspecified restitution for these alleged illegal acts, as well as \$889,000 in civil penalties. It further seeks prohibition from future banking involvement of all six individuals charged. This is a giant leap forward for the Debt for Nature campaign and forces Maxxam to get serious about a swap.

In December of 1995 the federal Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) filed civil charges against Charles Hurwitz and former directors and

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. Please write or call Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt and President Bill Clinton, urging them to pursue all strategies to preserve the Headwaters Forest, including a Debt for Nature swap.
2. Tell them that citizens oppose handing over control of the Federal Endangered Species Act to the states. Remind them that this is an election year and that the environment is a winning ticket.

Bruce Babbitt, Dept. of Interior, 1849 C St. NW
Washington, DC 20240 (202) 208-7351
President Clinton, The White House,
Washington DC 20500 (202) 456-1111



Rabblouser Casey Neill played at the Headwaters rally on September 15, 1995, at the Pacific Lumber mill in Carlotta, CA, and had nearly 2,500 people "dancing on the ruins of multinational corporations." Photo: Nick Wilson

The Epic Battle to Save Headwaters

In the decade since Headwaters was "discovered" by corporate raider Charles Hurwitz, CEO of Maxxam Corporation, and environmental activists, an epic battle has unfolded between those who want the last vestiges of wilderness preserved and those who want to destroy the final remnants of the great forest for profit.

The people of California's North Coast know Charles Hurwitz and Maxxam will evade the law to turn a profit. Twice in 1992, the company illegally cut hundreds of ancient redwood trees in the old-growth grove of Owl Creek. Both logging sprees were eventually stopped by court injunctions sought by the Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC). EPIC has successfully sued Maxxam eight times to preserve Headwaters Forest and the endangered species in it. The federal and state Endangered Species Acts have been critical in defending species and habitat in the courts.

In February 1995 a judge ruled in EPIC's federal lawsuit *Marbled Murrelet v. Pacific Lumber* that logging in the Owl Creek grove of Headwaters Forest would threaten the murrelet by adversely impacting its old-growth nesting habitat. The ruling permanently enjoins the logging plan in Owl Creek grove, concluding that its implementation would sufficiently "harm" and "harass" the murrelet and constitute a "take" of the species under the Endangered Species Act. The judge concluded that harvesting Owl Creek grove "or any other significant portion of the marbled murrelet's critical nesting habitat in southern Humboldt County, will result in a high probability that the remaining population of marbled murrelets in this region will become extinct."

This victorious ruling was a sweeping indictment of the practices of Pacific Lumber and its corporate parent Maxxam, citing fraudulent wildlife surveys and illegal logging operations. The ruling sets a powerful precedent that the ESA should indeed protect species on corporate lands. Tragically, days after the Owl Creek victory, PL announced plans to begin "salvage logging" in Headwaters under a timber harvest plan exemption which the California Department of Forestry approved.

On September 15, 1995, the Coalition to Save Headwaters Forest rallied over 2,000 outraged citizens in a major public demonstration at Pacific Lumber's Carlotta mill to protest plans to salvage log Headwaters. During the rally EPIC's lawyers obtained a temporary restraining order until EPIC could argue its case.

Later that month a federal judge issued a Preliminary Injunction halting salvage logging of ancient and "residual old-growth" redwood forests on Pacific Lumber Company land. He cited evidence "sufficient to show a likelihood of jeopardizing" endangered species. The ruling temporarily protects nearly 50,000 acres of PL forestland, critical habitat for the marbled murrelet and northern spotted owl, until the federal trial.

Meanwhile, PL is continuing its assault on Headwaters by submitting timber harvest plans that would clearcut occupied murrelet groves and carve a road into the heart of the Headwaters Grove. On the northern boundary of Headwaters, Sierra Pacific Industries (the largest landholder in California) is clear-cutting a buffer area. EPIC plans to keep defending our winged allies against the greed of these corporate giants.

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The gnome-like creature on the right is actually a big activist dwarfed by a giant ancient redwood tree. Photo: Greg King.

FISH-FRY AT THE PC CORRAL

Birmingham, Alabama—Down here in the Deep South, the forest reform movement is building steam. While activists still have a long way to go, grassroots organizations are starting to put some of the region's more critical issues on the map. Recently, the Native Forest Network, in a highly publicized action, stopped a ship bound for Japan from taking on woodchips, alerting many Alabamans to the fact that the largest exporter of hardwood chips in the US was right in their neighborhood. Last month, the Rainforest Action Network blocked a shipment of illegally logged mahogany lumber from being unloaded in Savannah. These actions garnered good regional media coverage and are helping to frame the debate about the timber industry violation of environmental laws and human rights in the American South and the Amazon basin.

And these strategies are working. A recent article in the *International Journal of Commerce* credited US and Brazilian grassroots organizations with an increase in the enforcement of environmental laws on the books in Brazil and a drop in demand by US consumers, resulting in fewer mahogany imports. Let's keep up the pressure. Southern groups have their work cut out for them. The timber industry has targeted the Southeast for massive timber extraction as they abandon the Northwest's fast-disappearing old-growth forests. Working together, we can hold them accountable for their actions.

While we're talking about working together, the big issue on everyone's mind down here at the moment is not logging but fishing. It seems that the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) has launched a very visible and contentious campaign against bass fishing, and are sabotaging bass-fishing derbys. For forest activists, this should be a matter of concern. Alliances with both recreational and professional fishing organizations have been a goal of the forest conservation movement since its inception. Unfortunately, it is not at all uncommon for people around here to confuse the goals of the animal rights movement with those of the conservation movement. The two are very different.

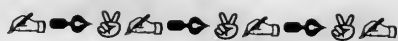
I'm don't want to make a value judgment here because I believe that many of PETA's issues are important for society. Practices such as factory farming and predator hunts do have important implications for habitat conservation. But PETA supporters approach these issues from a vastly different perspective. Supporters of PETA tend to concern themselves with the rights of individual animals, while conservationists are concerned with populations of wild animals and the habitat they need for survival. While I believe we still have a long way to go in changing the way we relate to animals in our industrial society, I also believe that we have to set priorities in how we do that. There are over 500 species of plants and animals in this region on the endangered species list and many more that are threatened with extinction. None of them are in the bass family. In fact, there are both large mouth and small mouth bass in every drainage in the South. It's hard to find a fish that is doing better.

It shocks me how many animal rights activists use the exact tone of voice and the same tactics as Operation Rescue activists often do. One group proclaims that meat is murder and any one who eats it is a murderer, the other proclaims that abortion is murder and abortionists are murderers who should be killed. Building a grassroots environmental movement means building alliances. Hunting and fishing groups are an important part of that alliance. Rather than telling people that they are murderers,

we need to work with them and help educate them to the real threats to the environment posed by corporate greed and public apathy.

Fishing happens to be one of the few outdoor activities that average citizens can enjoy without trashing the environment, not that bass fishing in the South is a pretty sight. True, there's too many noisy motorboats, too much litter and often little reverence for nature. But these issues can be addressed without outlawing fishing. This is what really makes people fear the environmental movement. They think we want to outlaw anything fun. Plus, sportfishing itself is endangered because of water pollution and excessive logging, and people who fish are becoming more angry about it.

Couldn't PETA spend more energy fighting corporate hog and chicken farming—which might actually build alliances with rural Southerners worried about water pollution and the viability of the family farm? The fact that these people like to eat fried fish and porkchops makes them immoral? Get a grip.



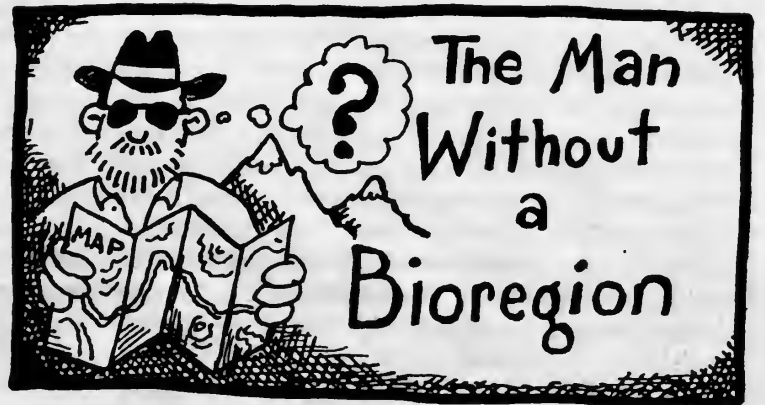
Of all the pieces that I've written since I started this column, none has received more attention than the one on Greenpeace. Since it ran I've talked to dozens of former and current Greenpeace staffers, both here in the US and throughout the world. Although there was disagreement with some of what I wrote, almost everyone I talked to seemed to agree that something was terribly wrong in the US office of Greenpeace.

There were also a few complaints from active Greenpeace campaigners. This type of criticism only serves to make a hard job more difficult. Perhaps I should have kept to the subject of strategy and vision instead of broadsiding the few good campaigns that are active. My beef is not with the campaigners in the field, many of whom I have only the greatest of respect for their work. No, my beef is with the front office, and I think by opening this can of worms we might be able to fish for some solutions (sorry PETA).

And then there is the response from Barbara Dudley, Greenpeace Executive Director, which was printed in the last issue of the *Journal*. In her letter she accuses me of gratuitous backbiting while at the same time criticizing the conservation movement for polarizing loggers and mill workers instead of working on building alliances with them. Barbara goes on to paint a rosy picture of the organization under her leadership and corrects some numbers I used that were outdated. I don't want to digress into an argument over numbers. She has numbers, I have new numbers, but it doesn't change the reality.

Lost in all of this happy horse shit is Greenpeace's failure to show any leadership in the US environmental movement, its failure to effectively engage the public in a serious debate over any of the pressing issues and its inability to effectively use the mass media to get a message out.

The way I see it, the problem is a lack of vision. Barbara Dudley acts and talks like a DC liberal. Listen to the buzzwords in her rhetoric, like "working with labor and minorities, empowering the economically depressed communities, building alliances with the victims of corporate greed, returning power to local communities, etc., etc., etc." I think most of us would agree that these are worthy goals, but when I read in a recent issue of *E Magazine* that she wants to form an alliance with the Chris-



tian right to fight Wal Mart, I had to wonder; has she ever been to a Wal Mart? Who does she think shops there, Hare Krishnas?

It sounds to me like the Greenpeace leadership is flapping in the breeze of political correctness and has no core beliefs of its own. Greenpeace should be a leader, not just a follower of trends. This is how they put the brakes on the whaling industry, led the campaign against nuclear testing and won some serious protection for Antarctica. The fact is, right now, as an environmental group, Greenpeace has become irrelevant. Where once they spoke of nature, wildlife, ecosystems, the immoral use of nuclear weapons, now it's the same bunch of warmed-over politically correct gibberish that you hear everywhere nowadays.

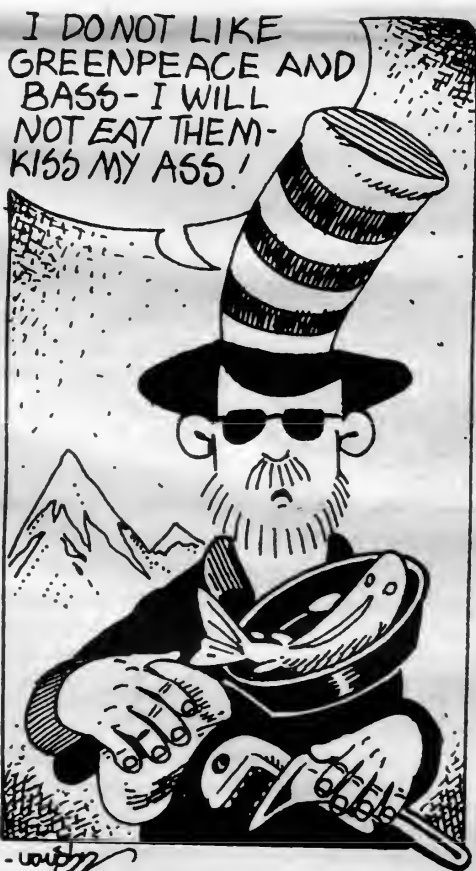
Barbara Dudley seems ashamed to be part of the conservation movement and totally ignorant of its history. How else can you explain her callous and uninformed remark that we polarized the timber workers in the Northwest? Has she ever been to a public hearing in Sweethome, Oregon or Big Timber, Montana, surrounded by big beefy loggers making death threats to elderly citizens for testifying in favor of a tiny wilderness proposal? Does she know that conservationists have supported mill workers during countless strikes from Sitka, Alaska to Mendocino, California? Does she realize that local control in Idaho would mean no protection for endangered species and ecosystems and no civil rights for anyone who disagreed with the majority?

Rachel Carson is credited with helping launch the modern-day environmental movement. But she was first and foremost a leader in the early conservation movement, and her seminal book, *Silent Spring*, was about the effects of toxic waste on wildlife. Her message was that what happens to nature does affect us all, and that we'd better do something about it if humanity wants to survive. We need to get back to our roots instead of trying to distance ourselves from the most critical issue we face today; the tragic, rapidly accelerating and irreversible loss of biological diversity on this planet.

Look Barbara, I don't like arguing in public any more than you do, but I do welcome a chance to talk about the future of Greenpeace. Certainly no one working for you would criticize you publicly because they would be out of a job. Most former employees have kept quiet because somehow, against all hope, they think things might get better and they may get their old jobs back. The rest of the environmental movement has been kept in the dark for precisely these reasons. I feel compelled to shed some light on this subject because I see a very different role for Greenpeace in the environmental movement than it now plays, and I see it running way off course.

I also think it would benefit everyone for this discussion to take place in the *Earth First! Journal*, which has traditionally covered the environment in a more objective manner than the rest of the environmental press. In my mind, the mere fact that I have heard so much criticism, both from within Greenpeace and from others in our movement is cause for concern. I want to encourage others to send in their thoughts, too. Who knows, we may yet find some common ground. We cannot do that if everything is swept under the rug. Criticism is not infighting. My job as a columnist is to write provocatively and stir debate. From the responses this column has produced so far, I'd guess that I'm having some success.

—MIKE ROSELLE



CHICKEN OF THE SEA: Don Tyson's Fish Trip

BY BEN JACKLET

On the other side of the barbed wire fence that separates the public from Seattle's Pier 91, a strange squawking sound like mechanized crows blares through tiny speakers. Scavenger birds hover overhead as dumpsters of fishy-smelling material are raised into the air and deposited into a waste truck. This is the Tyson Seafood Group's "reprocessing" facility. Inside, researchers from the corporation that helped convert a nation of beef-eaters to chicken are researching creative new ways to make fish more palatable to Americans.

Tyson Foods is a \$5 billion company that "processes" 24.3 million chickens a week into convenient packages for quick consumption. It's the largest employer in the state of Arkansas, and Don Tyson is a close friend of President Bill Clinton. When Tyson decided to take up fishing, he didn't waste time deciding what to use for bait. In 1992, the year Clinton won the presidency, Tyson paid \$250 million in cash and assets to buy Arctic Alaska, the premier big-boat fishing company in the US.

Fishing industry literature has described the merger as a "marriage made in heaven" between a proven producer, Arctic Alaska, and a marketing innovator, Tyson, in an industry high on production but low on innovation.

But not everyone shares this optimism. To many people monitoring the future of the last truly productive fishing zone in the US, it is clear that the last thing an industry plagued by miserable working conditions and failing ecological health needs is a corporate food giant buying up the sea's bounty as though it were so many chickens.

Tyson now owns the largest fleet of factory trawlers in the US. These massive, 250-foot boats can hold up to a million pounds of processed seafood. Like the whale ships from Melville's era and the seal boats from the days of Jack London, factory trawlers work at sea nonstop, killing and processing. Working conditions are still brutal, and the waste is as tragic as it ever was.

Factory trawlers fish the Bering Sea and the Gulf of Alaska for pollack, cod and flatfish. The surrounding land is mostly rock, the sea is frigid and often rough, and some of the biggest tides and currents on the planet keep a melange of migrating fish in constant, unpredictable motion.

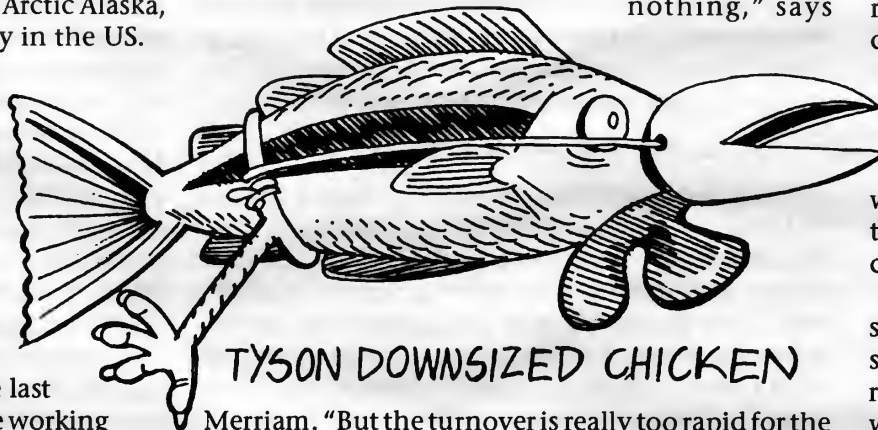
Trawlers practice mid-water and deep-water trawling, also known as "dragging." Dragging is the more damaging of the two because the fishing gear scrapes along the ocean floor, catching everything in its way and leaving behind a wasteland comparable to a clear-cut or a strip mine. Factory trawlers are more wasteful than small fishing boats because their nets are large enough to hold 10 Boeing 747s, making selective fishing impossible. Complex regulations

and allocations force deckhands to throw staggering volumes of dead fish back into the sea.

Fishers are exempt from the federal minimum wage and overtime requirements, and have long scoffed at the idea of a union. That was fine when fish stocks were bountiful and pay, based on a percentage of the boat's catch and called "crew shares," was high.

The workers aboard Tyson's factory trawlers are divided into specific categories, from the "licensed master" at the top of the pyramid to the "processors" at the bottom. Processors gut fish 16 hours a day or more, standing the entire time, isolated from friends and families by thousands of miles. The companies tell them they can expect to earn \$15,000 in three months, but they get no guarantees.

John Merriam, an attorney specializing in maritime law, is currently looking at a case where the crew share was 0.00112 percent of the catch. "These fishing companies are protecting their profit margins on the backs of their workers, and paying them nothing," says



Merriam. "But the turnover is really too rapid for the unions to get organized. I mean, they're recruiting in the unemployment lines in Wenatchee, for Chrissakes. They've got ads out in college newspapers all over the country: 'Earn \$5-8,000 a month in Alaska!'"

Asked if he handled a lot of cases involving injuries and abuses aboard Tyson vessels, Merriam answered, "I guess I'd better be careful with what I say here, but yes... The greatest number of cases I've handled over the past few years have definitely been with Tyson."

"There's nothing to force [anyone] to work on a factory trawler," asserts Dave Benson, Tyson Seafood Group. "If some people don't like it, then they don't have to work there. I mean, it's not for everybody."

In 1976, a federal law sponsored by Washington Senator Warren Magnusson blocked foreign fishing boats from Alaskan waters and encouraged the development of the US fleet. The Magnusson Act led to government subsidies (an estimated \$53 million in the case of Arctic Alaska) and encouraged companies to invest far more money in building boats than they could ever hope to make back.

Between 1988 and 1992, the number of factory trawlers fishing out of Seattle increased by 540 percent. Too many boats hunting too few fish made for shorter and shorter seasons. The awesome effi-

ciency of the new fleet led to lower catches for smaller boats with more traditional gear. And the ocean ecosystem suffered.

According to Greenpeace, the North Pacific's Steller's sea lion (an indicator species) population has decreased by more than 80 percent. Fish-eating seabirds and northern fur seals are declining as well.

The State of Alaska keeps figures on the waste produced by the fishing industry. In 1994, over 500 million pounds of dead fish were thrown back into the sea, including 17 million pounds of halibut, and over 15 million crabs. In the Bering Sea, factory trawlers like Tyson's were responsible for 60 percent of the groundfish catch and 80 percent of the waste.

Tyson spokespeople claim that the best solution for the problems of overfishing and waste is to update the Magnusson Act. Tyson has undertaken a big lobbying and public relations campaign to push legislation establishing Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs) for fishing in the North Pacific.

ITQs would guarantee percentages of the catch year-round to individual companies, based on their productivity in the past—meaning Tyson would have bought not only Arctic Alaska's operations but their catch history as well. The companies would continue to pay no royalties for access to an amazing public resource: the ocean. The fact that quotas would be transferable would enable Tyson to corner the fish market by buying out the competition, as the corporation has done with chicken farming.

Tyson argues that a company that owns the resource will take care of it, because it makes financial sense to do so. The frantic competition that has reduced fish stocks to nothing in so many of the world's seas would be replaced by benevolent stewardship and improved markets.

Tyson's critics point out that only one factor goes into the ITQ equation: volume of fish caught. Poor labor practices and ecological devastation aren't even considered, which means the biggest rewards would go to the companies that use any means necessary to fill their holds.

Last fall, Tyson's plans ran into some unexpected trouble. The US House of Representatives voted 385-37 in October to strengthen the Magnusson Act. The 1995 version included an amendment that would protect endangered species, assist small fishing communities and set more stringent policies on wasted fish.

If the measure makes it through the Senate unscathed (Senator Slade Gorton, R-Washington, is gunning for it but doesn't sit on the key committee), it could mean some rough seas ahead for Tyson Foods. Without ITQs, it will be harder to buy up the North Pacific than Tyson had hoped. Add that to the ever-growing number of lawsuits from unhappy workers, and the king of the factory chicken world may soon be wishing he'd never left that beautiful Arkansas monoculture behind.

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SEA TURTLES WIN VICTORY OVER GATT AND NAFTA

Great news for sea turtles! On December 29, 1995 a federal judge ruled in favor of a lawsuit brought by the Sea Turtle Restoration Project, forcing all countries that export shrimp to the United States to adopt sea turtle conservation measures for their shrimp fleets by May 1, 1996 or face an embargo of their shrimp products. The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, The Humane Society of the United States, the Sierra Club and the Georgia Fishermen's Association were also parties to the lawsuit.

Sea turtles are captured and killed every year in the nets of shrimp trawlers. This decision will save up to 125,000 endangered sea turtles from drowning in shrimp nets every year.

Judge Thomas J. Aquilino overturned a US State Department ruling, putting

environmental protection ahead of free trade agreements such as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Judge Aquilino of the US Court of International Trade directed the Secretaries of State, Treasury and Commerce (defendants) "to prohibit not later than May 1, 1996 the importation of shrimp or products of shrimp wherever harvested in the wild with commercial fishing technology which may affect adversely those species of sea turtles the conservation of which is the subject of regulations promulgated by the Secretary of Commerce on June 29, 1987... and to report the results thereof to the Court on or before May 31, 1996."

Prior to this ruling, the US only required 14 Atlantic and Caribbean

nations to use turtle excluder devices (TEDs) on their shrimp vessels if they wished to export shrimp to the US. Even these nations were not required to use them on the Pacific coast. The lawsuit compels the US Department of State to ban the importation of shrimp into the US from all nations that have not reduced sea turtle mortality from shrimp fishing operations by 97 percent, the level that can be achieved with the proper use of TEDs on all vessels. Now, all countries that harvest shrimp in waters shared with sea turtles, and export their product to the US, will be required to use TEDs or face an embargo. The court hearing was delayed by US federal agencies, using every procedural hurdle possible, for nearly five years, resulting in the continued capture and death of

more than 500,000 sea turtles.

This case set an important precedent on the issue of standing for environmental and conservation plaintiffs. Clarifying the Supreme Court's 1992 decision in *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, this decision clearly establishes environmental plaintiffs' right to seek judicial enforcement of US laws, like this one, aimed at the global protection of threatened and endangered animals.

Nations can come into compliance quite simply, by installing TEDs on all shrimping vessels that fish in waters shared with sea turtles, as has been done by the US fleet. Seventy nations are affected. The largest eight exporters to the United States (by weight) of wild-caught shrimp are India, Indonesia, Thailand, Mexico, Malaysia, Brazil, Korea, and Japan.

TAXPAYERS FOOT THE BILL

BUDWEISER'S BOVINES PULVERIZE PUBLIC LAND

BY TODD SHUMAN

Public lands ranching on the Golden Trout Wilderness (GTW) in southern California provides an excellent example of corporate abuse of public lands. Anheuser-Busch holds the grazing permit for over half of the Golden Trout Wilderness. This issue is ripe for a public lands campaign focusing on the twin issues of corporate subsidies and cowboy-caused wilderness degradation.

Anheuser-Busch (A-B), the most profitable company in the US beer industry, bought the Cabin Bar Ranch at the southern end of the Owens Valley in eastern California in 1992. When A-B purchased the ranch, it also secured the privilege of grazing 800 cow-calf pairs on two of the four Inyo National Forest (NF) grazing allotments on the designated Golden Trout Wilderness. As a result, A-B's giant herd of cattle spends summers and autumns consuming and compressing the grasses, sedges, and soils in the core habitat of the California state fish, the golden trout.

A-B, like all public lands grazing permittees, pays \$1.61 per "Animal Unit Month" to graze a cow-calf pair on public land. Half of the grazing fees are channeled into the Range Betterment Fund, which is then used to finance environmentally destructive "range improvements."

A-B's cattle graze on two biologically important allotments just south of Mt. Whitney, the Mt. Whitney and Templeton allotments. The Whitney Allotment shares a 15 mile border with the Sequoia National Park. As such, this allotment connects the Golden Trout Wilderness with the second-largest unroaded chunk of wild land in the lower 48 states.

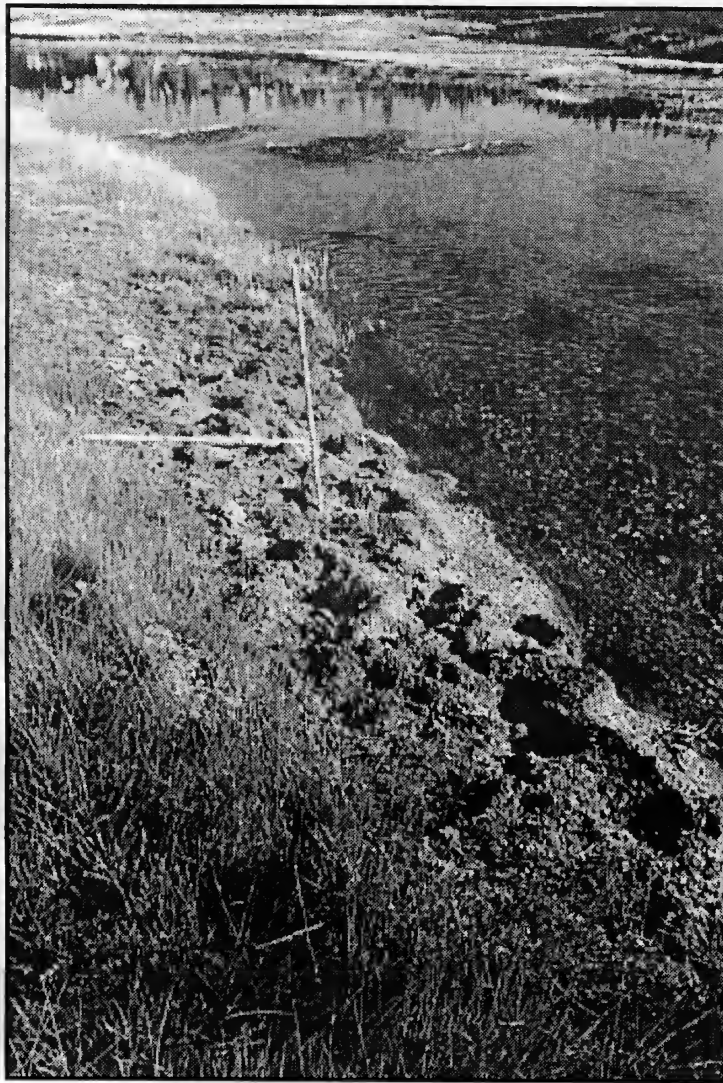
The Whitney Allotment also contains the headwaters and "headmeadows" of the South Fork of the Kern River, Golden Trout Creek and Volcano Creek. These three creeks are the ancestral home to the only remaining pure strains of the Volcano Creek golden trout. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is currently considering proposing this species for listing as threatened, primarily because of habitat degradation. In many places throughout the Golden Trout Wilderness, habitat quality has been degraded by loss of overhanging vegetation, collapsed stream banks, sedimentation, lack of in-stream and bank cover, and embedded stream channels. Livestock grazing has been and remains the primary source of such degradation.

The Inyo NF's own monitoring data from the last two years indicate that the grass has been overgrazed by as much as 70 percent above their own conservative recommendations, and that ecological deterioration, such as trampling and chiseling of the stream banks, continues on the Whitney Allotment.

The Templeton Allotment, which borders the Whitney Allotment, contains some of the largest wet meadows in the entire Sierra Nevada. The South Fork of the Kern River, a designated "Wild and Scenic River," flows through the gigantic Ramshaw and Templeton Meadows.

Sheep grazed the allotment heavily from the mid-1800s through much of the middle twentieth century. As a result, signs of historic degradation are apparent everywhere. Grazing-induced erosion has lowered the water table such that the river is frequently ten feet lower than it was 150 years ago. Sagebrush invasion is rampant—the result of degradation of formerly-wet meadow areas. Many areas along the river lack any protective willow vegetation, and many sections bear the "wide and shallow" characteristics indicative of degraded hydrologic function. The Inyo NF admitted in 1991 that less than 10 percent of meadow stream trout habitat on the Templeton Allotment was considered to be at an acceptable level, and nearly 70 percent the allotment's stream mileage had fair to poor bank stability.

Cattle grazing is a major barrier to aquatic species habitat recovery on the Templeton Allotment. Although golden trout population numbers remain substantial, the population appears to be domi-



Streamside trampling along the South Fork of the Kern River near Strawberry Meadow, Templeton Allotment

nated by smaller, younger fish. Habitat in these allotments seems adequate to promote spawning success but inadequate to promote longer-term survival and growth of individual fish. Smaller, younger fish, occupying wide, shallow river habitat without protective deep pools and overhanging woody vegetation may be highly vulnerable to climatic stresses. Furthermore, short life spans expose the whole golden trout population to great risk if spawning fails for a number of consecutive years, as it did in 1995.

Habitat degradation is also negatively impacting mule deer on the Kern Plateau. A portion of the Monache deer herd uses both the Whitney and Templeton Allotments as summer range, fawning habitat, and migrational range. The herd is currently one-quarter to one-third of its historic size of 8,000 to 10,000 individuals. While many factors may be related to this reduced size, the herd is undoubtedly affected by poor riparian habitat quality on the Golden Trout Wilderness. Water and high-quality succulent forages—important for meeting lactation demands—make meadow-riparian habitat particularly valuable to female mule deer. Additionally, half of the area that was once wet meadow available for deer use has now been invaded by sagebrush. Independent of riparian condition, female deer tend to avoid cattle, which further reduces available habitat.

Other wildlife negatively affected by the A-B cattle operation on the GTW includes montane voles, yellow warblers, willow flycatchers, fur bearers, and the sensitive plant *Abronia alpina*. Under the current forest plan habitat improvement projections for these varied creatures indicate improvement at a snail's pace, if at all.

Finally, environmental degradation of the A-B-owned Cabin Bar Ranch should not go unmentioned. The ranch sports some of the finest riparian and wetland habitat remaining in the Owens Valley, harboring a diversity of rare, threatened, endangered, or locally endemic species such as the endangered Owens tui chub and the Owens checkerbloom. Insects and waste grain associated with cow manure provide a rich food base that allows cowbirds to survive, detrimentally impacting songbird populations.

So, what is to be done? Public pressure on the Inyo NF might result in some positive change. In 1996 or 1997, the Inyo NF is going to reassess grazing on the

Templeton Allotment to determine whether extensive fencing and a rest-rotation grazing system need to be instituted. Anheuser-Busch will resist any change, and the Inyo NF—assuming it has the gumption to propose change at all—will buckle under A-B pressure unless the public makes a fuss.

More broadly, the Inyo NF will start preparing a wilderness-wide Environmental Impact Statement for all for grazing allotments on the GTW in 1998. This may provide us with the best opportunity to challenge public lands ranching on the wilderness. A large public response and a sustained legal challenge to the Inyo NF final decision could produce some significant changes and advance the national campaign against corporate cowboy welfare: public lands ranching.

To give your opinion to the Inyo NF, contact: Resource Officer Ron Keil at USFS, Inyo NF, 873 North Main St., Bishop, CA 93541-2494; (619) 873-2400. The Range Conservationist for the GTW is Del Hubbs, reachable at Inyo NF, 640 South Main Street, Lone Pine, CA 93545; (619) 876-6200.

There seems little choice but to begin a boycott of Anheuser-Busch! To that end I am making the following demands: "Anheuser-Busch shall withdraw its cattle from the Templeton and Whitney Allotments on the Golden Trout Wilderness for the next three years." (Note: A-B must graze during the fourth year to maintain its grazing permit under NF rules.) "If Anheuser-Busch agrees to a plan of three years' rest, one year grazed, followed by three more years of rest, I will call off the boycott."

A-B's other major beer products include Ice Draft, Ice Draft Light, Michelob, Busch, Carlsbad, Natural Pilsner, Red Wolf Ale, Elephant Malt Liquor, O'Douls, and King Cobra. As of 1993, A-B held a 17.7 percent equity interest in Grupo Modelo (Negro Modelo), Mexico's largest brewer, and A-B has been actively purchasing substantial chunks of equity in various Chinese brewing companies. Of course, A-B has many other lines of business, including metal packaging, food products (Eagle Snacks), and theme parks (Sea World and Busch Gardens).

The prospect of a boycott is daunting, given A-B's resources, past contributions to environmental groups, and its substantially unionized labor force. However, the company's products are very well-known, omnipresent, and eminently boycottable. Many hunters and fishers drink Budweiser, and many environmentalists have friends who drink A-B beers. Others may become interested, such as those who support serious glass recycling and are alerted to A-B's historic role in undermining efforts to establish mandatory deposit laws. In Defense of Animals, a Mill Valley, California-based animal rights organization, has already launched a boycott of A-B owned Sea World because of concerns about the cruelty of marine mammal captivity.

Boycott Anheuser-Busch! Write or call the company. Tell them you are aware of (and unhappy with) the impacts of their ranching operation on the GTW and in the Owens Valley. Tell them you are boycotting their products until the company withdraws its cattle from the Templeton and Whitney Allotments on the Golden Trout Wilderness for at least the next three years. Tell them you will continue to boycott until they implement a policy of at least three years' rest for every year grazed on the allotments. Write to Anheuser-Busch Companies, One Busch Place, St. Louis, MO 63118-1852; (314) 577-2000. The President and Chairman of the Board is August A. Busch III. Feel free to act in accordance with the dictates of your conscience.

Todd Shuman is a public lands activist based in California. He has worked in conjunction with the California Grazing Reform Alliance, The Range of Light Group of the Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club, and the Cove-Mallard Coalition. He can be reached at: General Delivery, 900 N. Alameda, Los Angeles, CA 91350; (213) 913-5878.

Property Rights and Wrongs

BY TIM HAUGEN

The issue of "property rights" has become a ruling-class obsession in recent times. The anointed cabal of mostly wealthy white males who claim to represent us in Congress speak in hushed, reverential tones of restoring "balance" to a system skewed by the demands of "special interests" (i.e. the rest of us). They demand the restoration of constitutional protections for property owners that have allegedly been whittled away by onerous restrictions on the use of property. With particular rage they point to wetlands protection, species protection, limitations on the sacred right to pollute... In effect, they tell us, "If people want the basic life support systems of the planet protected, then they must pay us not to destroy them!" They hold the Earth for ransom.

Personal integrity has frequently been immaterial in some Representatives' efforts to produce catchy sound bites. Wayne Allard, who "represents" my district in Colorado recently railed about a farmer who had lost the use of 90 percent of his land as a consequence of wetlands protection. Only after someone in the audience sought to determine the location of the farm so he could see it for himself was it revealed that the congressman had fabricated the story. There was no such farm.

Sadly, Wayne Allard's flatulent gurgles constitute only the tip of the iceberg of intellectual and rhetorical dishonesty in the property rights debate.

Let me state for the record that I do not hold the so-called "founding fathers" in high esteem. The "truths" that they held "to be self evident, that all men are created equal..." were betrayed when they wrote laws restricting voting rights and other legal protections to white land owners who happened to possess a pair of balls between their legs. Nevertheless, those early lawmakers did make one meritorious distinction with respect to our constitutional rights that is now being conveniently ignored by the current crop of property rights zealots. That is, corporations were specifically and explicitly excluded from constitutional protection.

During the first decades following the Revolutionary War, corporations were officially regarded as artificial agglomerations of economic power that were to be strictly scrutinized and controlled. State legislatures were given the duty to charter each individual corporation. Corporations were prohib-

ited from doing anything not specifically allowed by their charters. They were mandated to serve the common good, and were given restricted life spans. Any corporation that was found by the legislature to have violated its charter could be shut down and its assets distributed to shareholders. Shareholders were held liable for corporate misconduct.

Think how the fate of Headwaters Forest might be different if Pacific Lumber functioned under such public scrutiny and control.

In the mid-1800s, a series of court decisions completely reversed these entirely sensible restrictions on corporate power. In 1886, the Supreme Court ruled that corporations were "natural persons" rather than artificial accumulations of money and power. Therefore, they were protected by the 14th amendment (which prohibits the taking of property without compensations). In the words of William C. Douglas, "There was no history, logic or reason given to support that view." Do those brave defenders of the corporate right to despoil public and private lands, who decry judicial tinkering with the law, ever mention this 180-degree reversal of the forefathers' intent? Nah! They object only when someone other than their rich white male constituency benefits: minorities, the poor, women, other species.

The current powers-that-be equate freedom with property rights, which is effectively defined as the right to profit from property and other people's labor by any means. This holds true even if it means destroying biodiversity and other global life support systems. This premise also implies that freedom is intended only for those privileged enough to afford property and to escape the consequences of their actions, but we're not supposed to realize that. Our lot is merely to serve their version of progress.

I believe that the earth is the common inheritance of all living things, and not just the private domain of the privileged. We all have a right to meet our needs from the earth, but also the responsibility to do so in ways that respect the needs of other lives, of other life forms, of future generations. Only this balance of rights and responsibilities will assure a livable future, if such a thing is still possible in these late days. To the proponents of property rights who deny any responsibility other than maximizing



shareholders' profits, we must respond that meeting real needs from the earth is a right, but manifest greed constitutes theft from all of us.

These days the corporatocracy has politicians in its pockets and owns the media, which serves to mold public opinion. Thus I am highly skeptical of environmental salvation by "legal" means. In a previous article, I wrote about how some properties can be acquired by paying the back taxes owed to them. Sadly, not all corporate entities that deserve to lose their property will cooperate with us by running into the requisite financial difficulty on their own. They will frequently need a little help to go down. As was the case in the earliest decades of the country, let us adopt the perspective that corporations are public entities. When they fail in their mandate to serve the public good, then their infrastructures and products should be regarded as a free source of public goods to be distributed as such. We can live off corporate corpses until we relearn the wisdom necessary to live in harmony with the earth.

When one "expropriates" corporate goods, one should find some way to communicate to the public that the act was done in the true spirit of the founders of this country. Let's reawaken in the public the knowledge that corporations were to be our servants, not our masters. Make everyone understand that tearing down rogue businesses is a patriotic thing to do.

Information on corporate charters can be found in *Taking Care of Business: Citizenship and the Charter of Incorporation* by Richard Grossman and Frank Adams. Contact Charter, Ink./CSPP, POB 806, Cambridge MA 02140. You can also order this book through the merchandise pages of the Journal.

DEAR MISS DEMEANOR

ADVICE FOR THE ECO

Dear Miss Demeanor:

Two of my friends are becoming interested in eco-stuff. That's good. However, they raise philosophical conundrums. That's bad for my pea-brain.

For instance, "Jane" says Earth First! would support building some kind of space rocket to knock a comet or other celestial object off its course if it was heading toward Earth. She says such a calamity would end nearly 4 billion years of organic evolution and a living Earth.

However, "Dick" argues Jane's approach is wrong. He says eco-folks should support Universe First! where the asteroids have as much right as Earth. He argues spaceships should be built to take life, not restricted to humans, off the Earth in case of such a calamity. He justifies this approach by noting ticks jump from a deer to a cougar after the deer is killed—it's

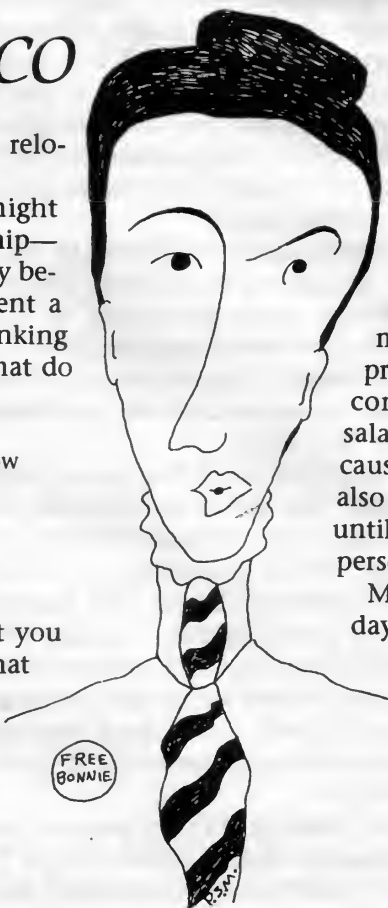
only natural for life to relocate.

I think my friends might want to ride on a spaceship—maybe that's where they belong. Then again, I spent a few sleepless nights thinking about this problem. What do you think?

—MUDDLED IN MOSCOW

Dear Muddled in Moscow:

Well, dearie, I suggest you advise Dick and Jane that they should feel free to create and commandeer whatever spaceship they so desire, and to recruit a plethora of corporate executives to join them.



LOGICALLY CONFUSED

Dear Miss Demeanor:

about my guilt at consorting with the enemy?

—PC COMPROMISED

I'm a 50-something politically correct old maid who recycles, precycles, bicycles, walks, contributes my meager salary to environmental causes, and eats vegan. I also sleep alone—or at least until Mark responded to my personal ad.

Mark eats a hamburger a day, watches TV, drives a car, and scoffs at my foolish ways. He's a reliability engineer at a nuclear facility even! He probably hangs around out of guilt due to his job. But how

Dear PC Compromised:

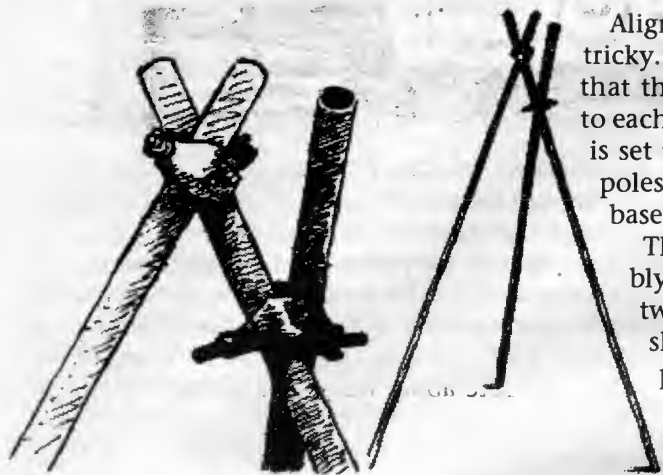
Well, dearie, nuclear contamination clinging to Mark's clothing is very pesky to remove. Certainly you don't want it in your boudoir. A vibrator would be much safer (and quite possibly more fun), and its rechargeable solar batteries are much kinder to the planet than nuclear engineers.

MISS DEMEANOR RESPONDS TO ACTUAL LETTERS. HUMOROUS QUESTIONS MAY BE SENT DIRECTLY TO THE JOURNAL ADDRESSED TO MISS DEMEANOR, POB 1415, EUGENE, OR 97440.

How to Build a Scaffold Tripod

BY B. DAHL

For your basic tripod, acquire three scaffold poles, about 25 feet long; two swiveling scaffold clamps; some rope—cheap, blue polypropylene is fine; and a crescent wrench for the nuts on the clamps. You'll also need a fairly large space (with high ceilings, if indoors) for experimenting and practicing with the tripod and for repairs.



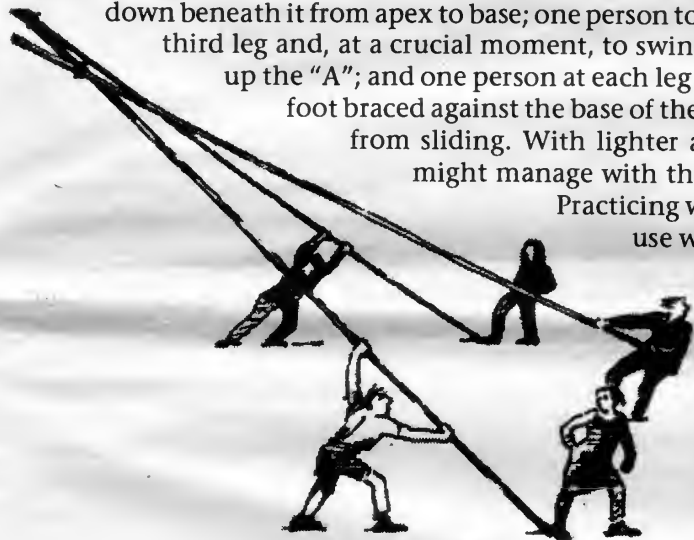
Alignment of the clamps is tricky. They must be fitted so that the poles can lie parallel to each other before the tripod is set up, as well as allow the poles to form a triangle at the base when it's erected.

The fully erected assembly can be thought of as two main poles in an "A" shape, plus a third pole to prop them up.

The scaffold clamp for the third pole has to be about a foot below the clamp for the main

"A" poles to allow the main poles to close over it. The axis of the central swivel for the lower clamp should be located at roughly 120 degrees around the pole from that of the main clamp. Experiment until you get the clamps placed so that the poles can lie parallel and also open into a tripod.

With iron poles you will probably need at least five people to erect it: At least one strong person is needed to lift each of the two main legs by walking down beneath it from apex to base; one person to do the same with the third leg and, at a crucial moment, to swing this leg out to prop up the "A"; and one person at each leg of the "A", with their foot braced against the base of the pole to stop the pole from sliding. With lighter aluminum poles you might manage with three people.



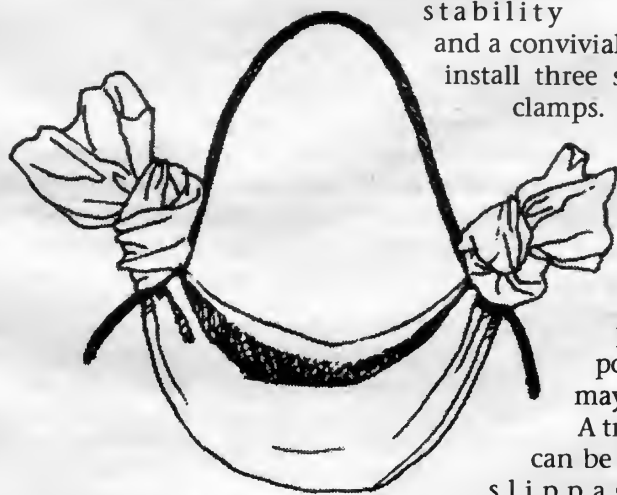
Practicing with the tripod before use will help to determine the proper distance between the legs at the base. If they are too close together the tripod will be too unstable. If they're too far apart, the apex of the tripod will be too low. The stability will also be dependent on the

surface the tripod is erected on. The poles will slip more easily on paved surfaces. A way to add stability is to affix a simple circumference rope tying the three poles together about three feet from the top. It can be affixed in advance and then stood upon by up to four people.

Once the tripod is erected, at least one person must shinny up a pole at the speed of light, to be out of reach at the top.

If a person must stay up in the tripod for long periods of time, a hammock sling is comfortable and rather styl-

ish. Make it out of a length of strong, light material, such as rip-stop nylon, knotted at either end, with the two ends of a short rope tied securely just inside these knots. The rope can be slung over your shoulders as you shinny up, and slipped over the poles at the top.



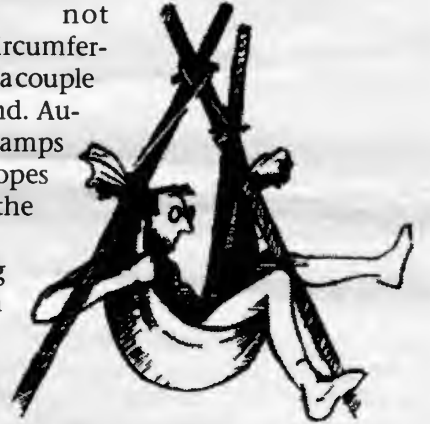
For extra stability

and a convivial number at the top, you can install three short horizontal poles with clamps. Leave each short pole dangling from one clamp until the tripod is up, then attach the second clamp. Don't forget the crescent wrench! A climbing harness and slings make this job easier. The augmented tripod will be heavier and you may need more people to lift it. A tripod lacking these extra bars can be stabilized against accidental

slippage,

though not against attack, with a circumference rope linking the legs a couple of feet above the ground. Automobile exhaust clamps are useful to stop ropes from sliding on the poles.

Practice putting it up. Transform chaos and inexperience into lightning expertise!



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continued from front page

The chainsaws were quiet for the rest of the day. Although we did not stop the cutting, we were able to stand in resistance to the corporate rapists.

Still frustrated with the pillaging of Hoxie Griffin, we returned, ready for another action, this time with a tripod. Five of us went to the access road to set the tripod up before light. As we prepared it, a security truck came and we scrambled to get the sitter up, but luckily the truck turned around 200 yards ahead without noticing us.

The first log truck came soon after the sitter was up. Within an hour we had stopped three log trucks, as well as the fallers. The morning sun began to appear as we stood our ground, outnumbered by the loggers. Finally, the rest of our balaclava-clad crew arrived. There were about 30 protesters in all, most of us under 18 years of age. The loggers stood in total disbelief at the bold barricade we created to block the road; they were not used to seeing logging protests step outside the boundaries of Gandhian-style civil disobedience. It took the cops and loggers over five hours to come to grips with the situation. Eventually, with the help of the loggers, the police succeeded in dismantling the tripod and clearing the road for log trucks. No arrests were made that day, although the police, nervous about trying to control a masked, disobedient and unruly crowd, threatened to use riot control tactics (pepper spray and dogs) if necessary.

Activists immediately began planning their next action, the seizure of a log truck headed for the Croman mill in Ashland. During the action plan-

ning, alliances were formed between seasoned peace agitators and younger deep ecologists. After an unsuccessful attempt to intercept a Croman truck near the logging site, protesters were able to overtake and seize a log truck carrying 400-year-old trees outside the Croman mill. Activists draped a banner reading "ECOCIDE IS GENOCIDE" over the cab, while others quickly locked themselves down to the truck's chassis. To increase the difficulty and expense of their removal, some used lock boxes, rather than kryptonite locks. Dot Fisher Smith, a sixty-seven year old social activist from Ashland, locked herself to the rear of the truck with a kryptonite lock. A total of fifteen arrests were made that day. At one point, police completely lost control and brutalized a young protester. Activists attempted to "unarrest" him, and the police responded by indiscriminately spraying the crowd with pepper spray. This was captured on film.

Ironically, the BLM temporally shut down logging at the Hoxie Griffin site that day due to warm weather. Since then, activists have wasted no time preparing for the next round of the struggle. Recently, the Native American community has come out in support of the campaign and helped organize a prayer ceremony attended by over 60 people. The struggle is far from over. Anyone wishing to participate in the campaign or donate funds can contact Siskiyou Forest Defenders at (541)732-3101.

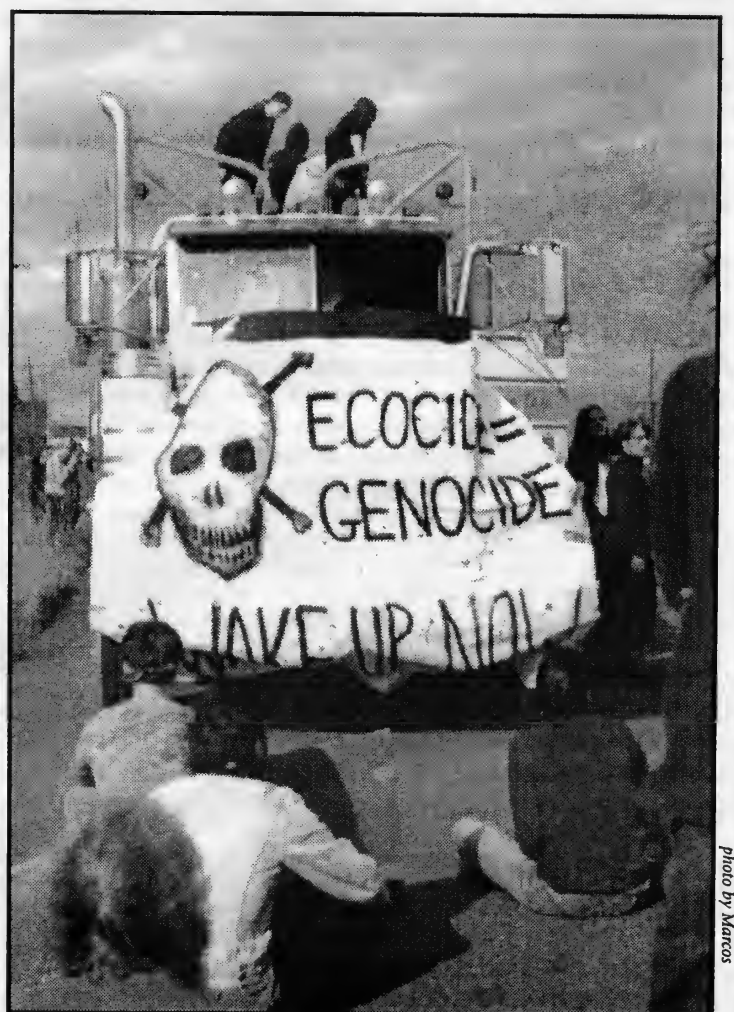


Photo by Marcos

...and if it wasn't for those meddling kids, we woulda got away with it, too!

NEED WE REMIND YOU THAT "LETTERS TO THE

Attn: Earth First Activists
Re: Alaskan Savage Logging

Greetings from the great land up north, home of the Sitka spruce, bountiful birch and insanely ignorant politicians. The sun is presently emanating our recent abundance of snow here in downtown Anchorage, happy campers are starting to come out of their cabin fever cocoons to welcome the spring energy and dance in our forests once again. What many of us do not realize is that—upon returning to the much-loved forests, streams, and scenic mountain tops—the experience will not be the same.

They will witness a minute sample of what the US Forest Service plans to do to much of the Kenai Peninsula, from Anchorage down to Homer. Logging: the use of our "multiple-use" forests are quickly and rapidly amounting to. As elsewhere, the Chugach Forest Service, when questioned, passes the buck to Congress and assumes no responsibility for their clearcutting endeavor. Congress, as you know by now, has passed the Salvage Rider bill which has instructed all of the national forest across our country to gather up the supposed "dead and dying trees," rip up the forest and haul what's left off to Japan. In Alaska, it's a classic story: the damage has been created by spruce bark beetles. A natural processes, the Forest Service has used the beetle as a scapegoat to make a quick, dishonest buck for the timber industry. Not to mention the fact that they are grabbing perfect green trees as they blaze their bulldozers through natural ecosystems, hooting and hollering, "Screw the hippies," only to leave 26 miles of paved road behind their sorry asses.

Fifty thousand acres of pristine habitat supporting wilderness gone within an eye blink. We are activists in a different sense, in an Alaskan sense. Resources are trashed like no one in the Lower 48 could begin to imagine. The juxtaposition in one of the most beautiful places in the world is such continual distress.

But in the name of the trees, the life they support and as the last sanity for us confused humans, we move on. Our protests reflect our passion. Field trips to the endangered areas remind us of why we do what we need to do. Public town meetings assure us there is a silent minority that we speak for. In every two-ton Chevy, equipped with signature shot gun and "I support logging" sticker, in the bearded, Camel-smoking Alaskan face, there lies the hope that one day Alaskans will be informed. Informed enough to realize their wilderness playgrounds may not be here tomorrow and there will be no more fish to make their fortune out of.

The task is huge, as is the forest, but that is of no relevance. Through you, the friends of the Lower 48, we can clear our throats, and as one we can be heard. The time is now, while the forests are still here and there are people that still care.

—TARA BRADLEY

Dear Editors:

I wish to expand on my remarks in the *Earth First! Journal* regarding the Sept. 15 Headwaters demo quoted by Randy Ghent (Yule) and twisted by Darryl Cherney (Brigid) in their respective editorials. I realized that my strong feelings—on the organizers' not seizing the road for the march—could sting egos, although that was not my intention. On this matter of fore-

compromising with the authorities, I say people need to be led, with spontaneity, not controlled! Cherney assumes a real march down a road guarantees violence, but an opportunity was squandered. If some eggs can never be broken, no omelets!

My main gripe with the demonstration was not with the civil disobedience aspect, but with the speeches. I'm pretty sure that no one mentioned the all-important issues of (1) roads and (2) human overpopulation. It's obvious that road building allows clearcutting, but roads even figure in population growth. (See my article in *Population and Environment*, September, 1995). Anyway, the over-demand for redwood is traceable to too many people. But the rally speakers and performers stuck to the subjects of trees and corporate villains, over-supplying a rant.

A few Forests First! (Earth First!) leaders who don't relate much to focusing on road fighting, or on the need to be car-free, find the paving moratorium movement to be less-than-Earth Firstly. The reason we must always "drag in" the paving moratorium is that even if our favorite forests are saved, and the Wildlands Project's dreams are somehow fulfilled to create wilderness, the forests will fry from global climate change and ozone-layer depletion caused by the society at large—the cities encroaching on the forests. Fossil fuels and the road/motor vehicle system are the main evil forces destroying the earth, and they account for most of the deforestation too. This is one reason that at the last Rendezvous I suggested an urban center for the next Rendezvous, to broaden Earth First!'s focus and improve the perception by the public that Earth First! is mainly concerned about old-growth trees. The massive road building to take place around Pittsburgh, Penn. (see APM's *Road Fighters' Alert*, April, 1995), for example, would probably tip the scales more toward global ecocide than if Headwaters were clearcut 100 percent overnight.

Nevertheless, I congratulate the Sept. 15th organizers on a successful, if restrained and tame, event and urge them on to further massive actions where I may again be in attendance with more *Auto-Free Times* copies to hand out. (To be sure to get the next *Times*, write to the address below) And Darryl, keep on doin' that sweet playin' and singin'.

For wild nature,

—JAN C. LUNDBERG, ALLIANCE FOR THE PAVING MORATORIUM, POB 4347, ARCATA, CA 95518

Dear Negotiators for Brains,

While I welcome debate on the appropriateness of negotiating with cops and corporatos, Darryl Cherney's response to my Yule editorial contained numerous flawed arguments and fictional statements.

If you came in late, I bent over backward to say my editorial was a critique of tactics, not of activists. Calling it a "call to faction" is absurd. I didn't even mention a single rally organizer's name. Hell, I even wrote a Headwaters "call to action" article in the same issue.

Cherney's story doesn't hold water: How could I have been both a "clueless critic" and a fully involved organizer? He even implies it would be some kind of indictment if I had been both a critic and a rally organizer. But my extremely peripheral involvement in the Sept. 15 rally should not preclude raising criticism developed during and after the event.

I had no qualms about raising criticism in the *EFJ* before raising it locally. *EFJ*ers elsewhere should be able to learn from our experiences, hearing differing views on major issues. As eco-warriors outside California have reportedly been negotiating too, the issue has national significance. IT ISN'T ABOUT HEADWATERS.

Cherney's response conveniently glosses over the negotiations with Pacific Lumber, which I and others opposed more strongly than mere negotiations with cops. PL could not possibly have been threatened by any action agreed to in negotiations. But Cherney's justification for negotiating is schizophrenic: He says the cops weren't the demo's target while he touts the single-file-line arrest procedure partly because it tied up the very same cops.

Moreover, I didn't insult arrestees by "calling them disempowered." The Martin Luther King variety were surely empowered, as their game plan was consistent with that of organizers. Others—Malcolm X division—insist they were disempowered.

I "dragged" no one into the debate. The debate only exists because other people felt strongly and shared their views. When I first heard criticism of the Sept. 15 demo, I defended organizers' tactics. I changed my mind only after much contemplation. But for a well thought-out position I am deemed "clueless." Without internal criticism—the questioning of our status-quo activism—Earth First! would become stagnant. Let's learn from the past and grow.

Yes, I am familiar with synergy between direct action and legal strategy, we stall logging in the woods to buy time in court. But this is entirely different from attempting to influence judges and raise lawyer morale with mass rallies. Not much synergy in that. EPIC's top-notch lawyers, Sharon Duggan and Tom Lippe, can argue a case just as well without 1,800 enviros cheering them on from 250 miles away. Contrary to Cherney's claims, the demo had no effect on either lawyer's decision to enter the case; I asked them myself.

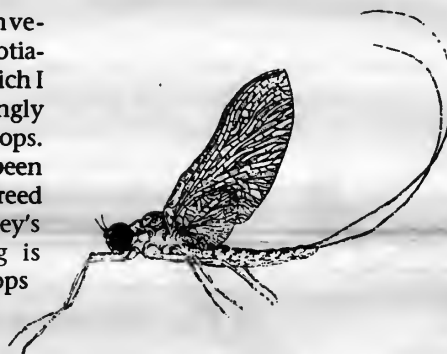
And Judge Maxine Chesney, in reaching her Sept. 15 decision,

almost surely didn't assert a bias in favor of enviros because of a rally. Judges generally don't work that way. Chesney issued the injunction because Duggan and Lippe demonstrated a probable likelihood of EPIC's eventual court victory. For what it's worth, Chesney's assistant also says "the judge's decision was based on law, not whether there was a demonstration." So I merely objected to the common practice of inflating *ad absurdum* the effectiveness of dubious tactics.

But I never said the Sept. 15 demo was all bad. This is obvious from my page-one Mabon '95 *EFJ* treatment, which was 99% self-serving to the campaign. But I submit that most everything good Cherney mentions about Sept. 15—the energy of new activists, etc.—could've occurred without negotiations.

Finally, Cherney dwells on my editorial's title, "Don't Take Orders From Anyone." Yet "Negotiation Does Not a Direct Action Make" was both the title I submitted and my primary point. It's the issue that needs future contemplation and—dare I say—even debate. But please, let's try for the intelligent sort in the future.

—RANDY GHENT



Dear Shit fer Brains,

I'm responding to Anthony Payne's article on Deep Ecology and Christianity. I am going to be critical; I hope Payne won't take that personally. If he is supportive of radical environmentalism, then I really don't care why. As the bible says, "By their fruits ye shall know them."

Payne states that he is not violating his christian principles because he shuns anything Pagan: Any act or belief that tends to deify nature or detract from the worship due God." He validates Deep Ecology as, "not founded on a hug a tree theology," but grounded in conservation science, etc. So, he sees no competition against his religious beliefs. Deep ecology is based on science and therefore occupies a different domain. How comforting.

I believe we can work together, irregardless of our different belief systems. But I must ask a few questions: What if my actions and beliefs do deify nature? If my theology is "hug a tree?" I am a nature-worshipping, radical environmentalist who might get into serious trouble. Would you support me? Before you answer consider this: I don't give a damn about the science; or your christian god. I honor the long history of christians who have followed their faith to stand up to oppression; and I've felt honored to meet such people. I also remember the burning times. The majority of christians would never have done that; but then, they didn't exactly intervene, did they? I had a mildly christian upbringing. I was never taught to follow

my conscience or to speak the deepest truth of my soul. I was taught to parrot phrases and mouth the proper words, and that obedience and conscience are identical. I've got nothing against you personally; but I despise your christian religion your christian god. We must find common ground here; but the happy illusion of common ground won't cut it.

I must also call into question some of our basic vocabulary. I believe Payne is using words like "deify" and "theology," in the usual monotheistic sense. From a nature worshipping perspective, these concepts, thus defined, are meaningless, laughable. I am not a Deep Ecologist, Radical Deep Ecologist, Social Ecologist, etc. These are schools of thought where some semi-articulate thinker carves out his (yes, usually his) intellectual turf. These thought-factions are all as full of shit as they are mutually antagonistic. It seems like Payne feels he's gotten a solid, well-rounded look at earth-based spirituality from reading Manes, Devall, Sessions, etc. I'd suggest a couple of titles by Starhawk: *Dreaming the Dark: Magic, Sex and Politics*; and *Truth or Dare*.

Again, I truly hope that Payne is not offended. Let's just say that I've had my fill of well-intentioned christians who blithely espouse and propagate a belief system that makes every claim to a high and loving morality, but inevitably lays the foundation for hierarchy, oppression, and brutal antagonism towards the living world. Maybe we should lock down to some heavy machinery and talk it out. We'll need to lock down tight; these are complex issues. It could take awhile.

—MATTHEW HAUN

To whom it may concern,

I want to thank you for sending me your paper. This was the 1st time I've seen one. I'm a death row prisoner and have very little contact with the outside world. So I don't really have a clue as to what is going on in the freeworld. If you happen to come across someone who would correspond with me and/or print my letter with address in your publication, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank You

—BURLEY GILLIAM
097234-A1-41-1091
POB 221, RAIFORD, FL 32083

To: *EF Journal*

Barry Clausen was the featured speaker on a radio talk show yesterday on KKOZ-AM in Albuquerque. He seriously slandered Earth First! and other groups he deemed as Earth First! front groups by claiming they were all involved in "terrorism." Local groups mentioned were Forest Guardians, Susan Schock and Gila Watch and the Wildlands Project. He also claimed that the Bullit Foundation of Seattle was "financing terrorism." Mr. Clausen gave a toll free number you can call to purchase his book. The number he gave was (800) 422-0074. I called it and reached the Washington Contract Loggers Assn. The book sells for \$14.95. I hope everyone who feels slandered by Mr. Clausen's statements will call WCLA and complain about this bullshit.

—A NEW MEXICO ACTIVIST

EDITORS' SHOULD BE LIMITED TO 300 WORDS?

To: Earth First

In the 1994 Beltane edition of this journal, Michael Lewis wrote of revisiting Prince William Sound. One sentence reads "The only lesson of the Exxon Valdez oil spill on this, its fifth anniversary, is don't ever let it happen again." Since that article, there have been other oil spills, and now it's happened yet again, and this time in my backyard.

I live in a very small village on the Gower coast in South Wales, UK. The peninsula is registered as a "Site of Special Scientific Interest" and an "Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty." West of us lies the Carmarthenshire coastline, then a little further west and north is the Pembrokeshire coast, including National Parks, protected coastline, and island bird sanctuaries.

On February 15, 1996 a 140,000 tonne single-hulled crude oil tanker, the *Sea Empress*, grounded on a sandbank at the entrance to Milford Haven, an oil port about 36 miles west of us on the Pembrokeshire coast. An accident was turned into a disaster and, to cut a long and sorry story short, it dumped 75,000 tonnes of its cargo plus about 750 tonnes of fuel oil into the sea. This is about twice the size of the Exxon Valdez spill.

The damage and devastation has been dreadful, and details will continue to unfold and multiply. Rumours fly around, but hard evidence and fact is difficult to come by at this early stage.

Verifiable facts include data on bird recovery to date. Between the 23rd and 28th of February, 1,983 dead oiled birds were collected, as well as 2,116 oiled birds which were collected and treated. Recovery rate is estimated at about 20 percent of the birds treated, and it is also estimated that for each dead bird recovered, ten will have died at sea and will not be traceable.

The main victim so far is the scoter—there were about 6,000 in Carmarthen Bay and about 2,000 have been found with oil covering—experts are pessimistic about the survival chances of the others. Seven hundred and forty guillemots and razorbills have been recovered dead, and those numbers will soon rise dramatically, as they tend to arrive here a few weeks later than the scoters. We expect about 200,000 pairs of shearwaters in the next few weeks—the outlook is grim for them as well. That's the present statistics on just a few of the birds, the picture will get worse as new arrivals come in.

One of the frustrations is the official voices answering media questions. Government Ministers seem complacent when answering Parliamentary questions. Salvor operatives regard the final moving of the ship from the rocks as the "prevention of a disaster;" no one is prepared to say "sorry," as this would imply a degree of responsibility.

Volunteers and council staff clear beaches, pick up oiled birds and wonder where it all went wrong. Off-shore fishermen, shellfish operatives, and tourism suffer the obvious and immediate human impact. Passing tankers illegally clean their tanks at sea, knowing that the degree of existing pollu-

tion will make it impossible to trace them. Inquiries are set up, and recommendations will be made.

I wonder if in five years time, we will be saying those same words that Michael Lewis wrote in 1994, only to be proved dreadfully wrong, yet again.

—PAG VENABLES



Beloved poo-poo-heads:

I was glad to see Yuma Badger's letter re my article on sea turtles and shrimp fishing. It's true that there are questions about the effectiveness of TEDs. Even though TEDs are mandatory under US law, in 1995 at least 2,175 sea turtles washed up dead on US beaches, even more than the previous high of 2,149 in 1994. What's wrong? Well, maybe TEDs aren't 97% effective, as claimed by NMFS and various university studies. Maybe sea turtles don't recover from the shock of being in the nets, even if they are released through a TED. Maybe the same sea turtles are caught and released again and again and die of exhaustion. Maybe, as the Texas Shrimp Association avers, there are more turtles out there to kill (yeah, right). And maybe, as Earth Island and lots of other groups suspect, shrimpers are tying their TEDs closed once offshore. Maybe it's all the above, and more. But shrimp fishing is unarguably responsible. The correlation between shrimp fishing effort and sea turtle strandings is clear.

While TEDs are only part of the answer, we shouldn't toss them out as an interim, and potentially long-term, measure. The shrimp fishery is not going to close down, at least not overnight (unless it's Earth Night...). While more research is conducted, both independently and by the government/university funded Sea Grant program, forcing global TED compliance is the best stop-gap measure we've got. TEDs will save sea turtles. We also need permanent and temporary area closures, industry regulation (way too many boats out there, folks) and a reduction in demand for shrimp. As I pointed out in my article, the usual range of tactics apply, but let's not throw out one of the most valuable tools we've got.

Shrimping starts up again in the Gulf of Mexico at the end of March. More Kemp's ridley sea turtles will die. If anyone is interested in doing an action in Texas in March or April, or has any ideas or info to share, call us up at (415) 488-0370 (we can call you back). AViva La Tortuga!

—CHELONIA



Dear Skunk for Scent:

(I sorta like skunk scent, y'know?) While riding home from the Activist Conference, squished gals that we were, the discussion about sexual harass-

ment resurfaced once again. It was discovered that the same guy who had groped me at the campfire was also the one who groped the woman in the front seat and was also the one that groped the woman who inspired an activist to comment upon this hard-up behavior at the meeting circle.

I later mentioned to the proper that I would "kick his ass" (of course, non-violently), if he ever did it again. He's not the only one to have ever groped at a fire (whether its a man groping a woman, or a woman groping a man, its still harassment when its not explicitly clear that its wanted).

What I'm sayin' here folks is that if you're groped, tell the wanna-be masturbator to reach down their own pants or leave. It doesn't matter that they're our 'friend', or that they're drunk, this is a movement that can not tolerate this kind of disrespect, and you do not need to.

Remember what happens when the pope gropes scopes!

—WREN

To the editorial staff at the *EFJ*,

Enclosed for your literary pleasure is a full-length copy of my resignation letter ending my career as a Wildlife Biologist on the Osceola National Forest in northern Florida. My involvement with this agency includes a stint as a volunteer in the Daniel Boone NF (KY) during 1990, three seasons as a co-op student on the Francis Marion NF (SC) during 1991, 1992 and further work as a co-op student on the Apalachicola NF (FL) during 1993. Altogether a big bob of my recent life. Feel free to publish, with necessary editing, any portion of this resignation letter that you wish to add to the little Freddie debate already in session between James Barnes, Gary Milner and Tree Frog. If you do include any portion of my missive, please add my following addition commentary:

As a now-former employee of the U.S. Forest Service, I believe the best future use of this agency is as an historical reference of how NOT to manage public lands. I know of several employees actually dedicated to "caring for the land," but their commitment is often in vain, overshadowed by the majority of their co-workers who remain willfully ignorant of anything even resembling a land ethic, much less the basic ecological knowledge necessary to implement "Ecosystem Management" or other such schemes. And if each of these wayward district employees COULD be born again in a massive Earth First! revival tent, they'd still have to struggle under the entrenched attitudes of line officers in the Regional Offices, then finally wage through the growing piles of sawdust just to get past the loquacious one himself—Chief Jack Ward Thomas. Don't hold your breath. Change is possible—I believe individual employees can get some of their INDIVIDUAL co-workers to re-examine their relationship with the land, but like everything else, it is a question of scale. An agency of this proportion claims its direction and mandates not from you or me or dedicated employees or biological realities, but from the meaner realities of modern poli-

tics; entities like Senate Committees that take their directives directly from the highest power in the land—\$\$\$\$. So be patient with your Freddie friends. They might be useful allies, though if they have any sense, they won't last too long. It took me long enough, not in deciding to leave, but in arranging a simpler, less dependent, non-electric lifestyle to turn to. Now maybe I'll have enough free time to work on converting my nearest National Forest into a National Land Trust, "publicly owned and not for sale."

—MICHAEL KEYS

Dear Editor,

I read the SeDnA article (Brigid 1996 *EFJ*, page 4) with interest. I enjoyed the narrative of the action and appreciated the outcome. However I must point out the wildly unrealistic decibel level cited in the article. 250dB is about 4,294,970,000 times louder than a jet engine measured at close range. It represents a power of 10^{13} Watts per square meter. This is 160,000 times the intensity of the surface of the sun! HOT! A police siren near the ear is more like 140dB. I agree that the acoustic imaging that they are doing is a hazard but we must be careful to verify our science or we'll lose credibility in our reporting.

The phrase "low-decibel-frequency" has no physical or physiological meaning either. I assume the intent was to say "sensitive." Using "techno-babbly" terms such as that really make it sound like the author does not know what he is talking about. I suspect otherwise. I developed great respect and admiration for Jonathan when I met him at the RRR in California. His knowledge about and commitment to the larger issue is commendable. The action plans sound exciting.

Next topic... Watch those hemorrhoid products for shark liver oil. Also, it pisses me off whenever I hear "shark infested waters" spoken like they don't belong there...

Yours, a humble Physics BS without a job...

—SCOTT STREHLOW

EFJ Journal,

The inaccuracies in the Nov. '95 *Journal*, pg. 28, Earth Liberation Prisoners Sec., regarding MOVE almost made me puke. And so, this correction.

The prisoners listed are ten. Those ten are the MOVE-9, and MUMIA ABUJAMAL. The MOVE-9 were wrongfully convicted of killing a pig. The MOVE-9 were arrested in 1978. The City of Philly had the MOVE-9 contained in the basement of their own home! While in the process of torturing the MOVE-9, a pig at street level (the MOVE-9 were below street level, basement) was shot, from above, the bullet traveled down through his neck. The MOVE-9 all received up to 100 years each for killing the pig. One pig, one bullet, nine murder convictions. (Anything wrong with this picture?) Now, Mumia Abu Jamal, an award-winning journalist and commentator decided that since this was not being covered consistently and accurately, that he would. He began being threatened because he was reporting the truth, that the public had a right to know. He

was fired from several radio/news-paper jobs ...BECAUSE THE SYSTEM WAS THREATENED BY HIS WORDS (AND MOVES).

So... in 1981, the FBI and the City of Philly got the chance to pin a murder, of a pig, on him. He is, of course, as you all must have heard by now—on death row. The case is as blatant as any other (MORE SO, REALLY) p.p. you may have heard of. Information is available (and accurate).

So that's the ten listed. On another note there was mention of the bombing. The bombing of the MOVE house on Osage Ave. in Philly took place on May 13, 1985. Of the 13 people in that house, on that day, only two survived. Ramona, whose body was burned to a crisp, managed somehow to get out with a child. She was arrested and did many unjust years in prison but is now out working very hard to see Mumia and the MOVE-9 freed, yet still maintains to stand for what they all stand for still—THE TRUTH behind LIFE.

Before the FBI and City of Philly bombed their house, they cleared all residents off Osage Ave. (a complete city block), and it burned to the ground following the bombing of the MOVE house, with no attempt by the fire department to stop it.

So, 1978 is the significant time frame for the nine MOVE members, after all they've been wrongfully incarcerated for 17 years. Mumia—a MOVE supporter—has been wrongfully incarcerated for 14 years (plus) and still [is] on DEATH ROW. Eleven people dead from the 1985 bombing, plus we mustn't forget the people of MOVE who have done years of time, unjustly, that now continue on with the struggle. The MOVE ORGANIZATION comes as such a threat to the powers that be that those powers will stop at nothing less than murder, bombs, wrongful incarceration, and lies. The MOVE organization is consistent with what it says, and has been for over 25 years. Everyone should take the time to listen to what its members say. It takes no genius to quickly understand that what they speak is THE TRUTH. Plain and simple. The system depends on inaccuracies such as the blunders that were made in the 11/95 issue of the *EFJ*. Please stand corrected and try to correct the inaccurate information you have given to thousands of readers. The MOVE organization needs accurate info put out all the time—using the *Journal* as a liaison, in this case, could discredit anyone really interested in putting out the information.

Anyone wishing info about the MOVE-9 and/or Mumia Abu Jamal can write to: International Concerned Family and Friends, POB 19709, Philadelphia, PA 19143; (215) 476-8812.

—CAROL DOVE

Ed. reply: Thanks for the corrections. As far as I can tell, the only errors I made were including Mumia Abu-Jamal in MOVE, which I'm sure is a common mistake, and confusing the police raid which led to the death of a "pig" and the police raid which culminated in the bombing. The information I used was from Earth Liberation Prisoners and doesn't seem that damagingly inaccurate, so why the upset stomach?—JF

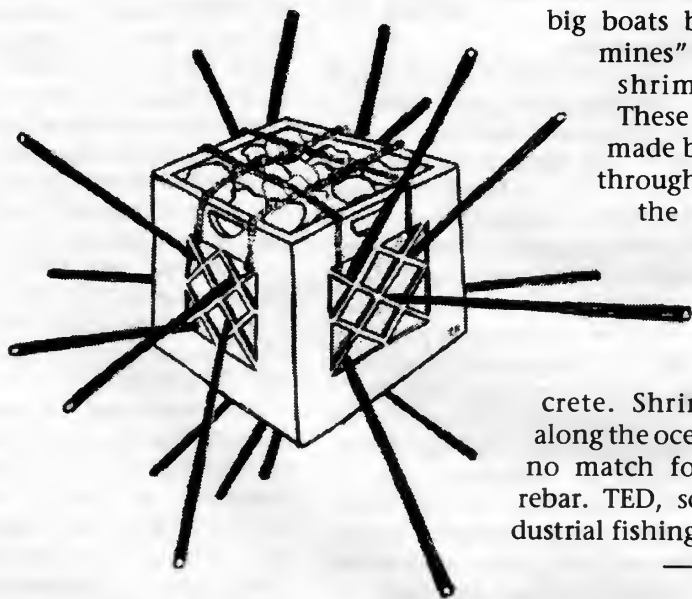
DEAR NED LUDD

A FORUM FOR THE TACTICS AND IDEAS
OF STRATEGIC MONKEYWRENCHING.
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NET MINES NOT TEDS

Dear Ned Ludd:

Re: the "Shrimp Harvest of Shame." Readers may be interested to hear of a tactic being used effectively against shrimp trawlers in Asia. Coastal subsistence fishfolks have been foiling the big boats by sinking "net mines" in areas of high shrimping activity.



These contraptions are made by running rebar through milk crates so the ends stick way out, then solidifying the whole mass with rocks and/or concrete. Shrimp nets move along the ocean floor, and are no match for concrete and rebar. TED, schmed. End industrial fishing.

—BYCATCH BONNIE

Foiling Development Infrastructure

Dear Ned Ludd,

Living in development-crazy Southern California, I thought I'd share some development-foiling tactics I think should halt or slow even the most well-funded projects.

After you've found a particular heinous development project that is in a pre- or mid-construction phase (this isn't too hard to find), the first extra-

curricular activity is as easy as lifting off a manhole cover and throwing in a bag or two of cement (the just-add-water kind). If enough scattered sites in the area are affected, *VIOLA!* vile sewer backups everywhere. At the very least, it's gonna cost big bucks to send a sewer diver in to get those pesky cement boulders out.

If the sewer pipes haven't gone in yet *WOW!* you've got the chance to make sure they *never* go in! The integrity of the laid pipe relies upon the seal between each pipe. If the pipes are plastic or better yet, cement, all one needs to do is use an ordinary 60's to 70's era car jack to click-click-click

quietly break off the lip on the end of a fair number of pipes that are awaiting installation. The adjacent figure shows how easy it is.

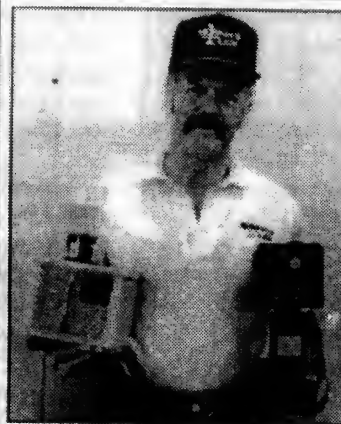
Well, water is one component of development. What's another? Yep, electricity! We all remember that metals are good conductors of electricity—an old link chain or worn-out tire

chain will carry plenty of current to render a transformer station a smoking mess. The technique is to fling the chain over the fence or wall onto the exposed electrics and *FOOM!* insta-power-outage! Back when I was younger, I even saw a flimsy string of beer pull tops black out a whole city block—so heave-ho; let those chains fly! Stop the cancer,

—SCRUBBY

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RENTALS AVAILABLE

ALARMING

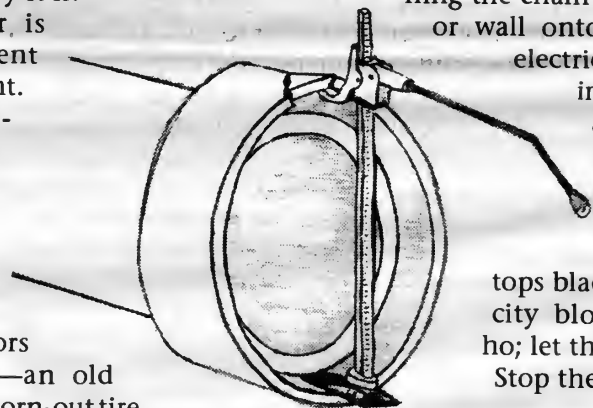
Dear Ned Ludd,

Recently I was looking through a copy of *Logger's World* when I spotted an advertisement for a portable alarm system. I thought it might be beneficial for other monkeywrenchers to know more about "security products" such as this one. Especially interesting about this alarm system advertisement (besides showing what this evil device looks like), is the fact that it

can operate a silent alarm or spray pepper gas (ouch!).

Yep, these could hurt. Some of the advertising claims of these security devices are: silently calling security personnel over portable radios; spraying pepper gas fog (supposedly for enclosed areas); protecting a structure *plus* several nearby vehicles and equipment; turning on floodlights when triggered.

[I've heard of a port-a-pottie, but never a "port-a-larm!"—BB]



HERE IT IS! STARDUST

(and other snotty remarks)



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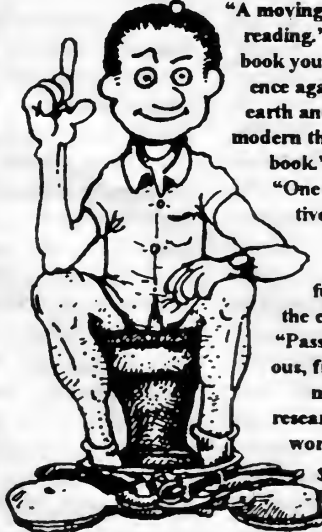


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SEARS ISLAND CHIP PORT DEFEAT, CONT...

continued from page 1

Having a carefully worded, ask-for-everything-under-the-sun-and-then-some Freedom of Information Act request letter helps a lot, too.

We got real smart on the federal laws that applied (NEPA, the Clean Water Act, the Rivers and Harbors Act, the Endangered Species Act and a slew of other federal and state laws), and educated other grassroots and media on how the regulatory poker game was being played, in easy-to-understand language. We filled the newspapers with op-eds, letters to the editor and a steady flow of press releases; babbled on radio talk shows; and filled the regulators' mailboxes and fax machines with detailed critiques of all the flaws in the state's plan and reports. We launched preemptive media strikes when we learned through the grapevine that a decision was brewing, reacted swiftly and appropriately whenever they got the drop on us and created bumper stickers ("Fish or Chips?," "Defend the Bay!" and a neat little "SEARS ISLAND" to apply to signs). We worked with the union, who knew this port removal machine and never let Governor Angus "Jobs Jobs Jobs!" King off the hook for extreme hypocrisy.

Watch Your Moderates

We learned early on how important it is to keep an eye on the eco-yuppies for symptoms of Win-Win Fever. Win-Win generally appears in one of two forms: Creeping Myopia or Acquired Integrity Deficiency Syndrome. In its more virulent form, the disease is transmitted by a direct injection of big business greenwash dollars into nonprofit groups' bank accounts, and also through excessive intercourse with corporate biostitutes and influence peddlers.

As an example of the former, Maine's Sierra Club chapter emerged victorious from an earlier round of the battle in the 1980's, bringing chip port development to a dead halt by successfully litigating for an Environmental Impact Statement. Now, even after the Governor has conceded the struggle over the port project, Sierra Club and a host of other moderates are promoting construction of a GATT port on the nearby mainland as a compromise, since it wouldn't take place on Wassumkeag Island!

The Island Institute (no relation to Earth Island Institute) was founded ten years ago to nurture the wild and human inhabitants of Maine's coastal islands. But years have passed, and Champion Paper, Georgia-Pacific and the other export wannabees have been key in helping the Institute's annual budget swell from three figures to somewhere in the upper six. This supposed voice for Penobscot Bay's fishing communities just couldn't find the strength to take any position on a bay-killer GATT port. A closer look revealed the presence of transnational entities on its board of directors; any effort to remove them could be fatal to the Institute in its present state of bloat.

On the other hand, the Conservation Law Foundation, the biggest eco-yuppie environmental group in New England, got right into it. Over the last five years, as the ancient forests evaporated, the eco-empires discovered that marine conservation was the new fundable thing and began turning their attention seaward. While most chose to focus on the disastrous "management" of commercial fishing in federal waters rather than politically connected developers and polluters, the Conservation Law Foundation's fish-hugger team decided to take a stand against the GATT port. Together we developed a strong package of challenges to the contemptibly crummy Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement exuded by the state's consultants after their first EIS was tossed by legal challenges in the '80s.

From the clams, mussels, scallops and seaworms of nearby Long Cove, deprived of their plankton diet by the state's illegal causeway, which paved over the submerged sand bar between Wassumkeag

and the mainland, to flounder larvae rendered homeless by the destruction of the seagrass meadows and hungry seals deprived of their flounder dinners, we demanded acknowledgment of every direct and predictable blow to every bit of Penobscot Bay's ecosystem from this project. Ditto for the Maine woods and all its inhabitants.

The combination of Maine EF's savage pounding of the pro-port, state bureaucrats and the warring Army Corps of Engineers, and labor's exposure of the industrial forest owners' plans to liquidate the Maine woods for export, gave the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the US Fish and Wildlife Service the courage to make a stand and actually follow the law!

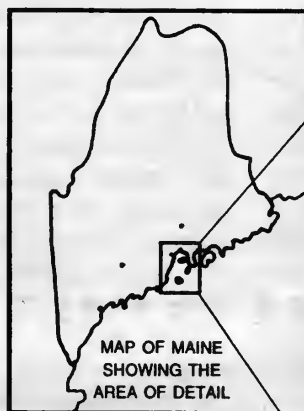
Feed Your Feds

Because the port would have screwed up an amazing variety of different parts of the natural world all at once, state and federal agency involvement was heavy and heavily polarized. Keeping relentless positive pressure on the EPA, National Marine Fisheries Service and US Fish & Wildlife Service to resist capitulating to the political class' demands was crucial. The political situation was extreme, with the entire Maine Congressional delegation and state legislature clamoring for the port. Congressman-from-hell James Longley blasted enviros as "thugs" (how original) and enlisted the aid of California Congressman Jerry Lewis (chair of the committee that determines EPA's funding) to squeeze EPA chief Carol Browner into ordering her New England division to back off. Didn't work! Now Longley is sweating as we solemnly and sadly inform the media that "Vote Wrongly" Longley conspired to sacrifice his constituent's livelihoods to please his campaign contributors (aka the usual suspects). We also lavished praise of the wonderful work the EPA and the others were doing to save Maine's doughty fishermen and sawmiller's jobs etc., etc., etc... in calls, letters and faxes to President Bill, while begging him to save them from the Republican's dark designs.

National Marine Fisheries Service and the US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) and the EPA were a dream team in this battle. Once they realized that local citizens actually CARED about the environment and were willing to go to bat for them and blister them if they backed down, they kept an unyielding stance. EPA and the FWS didn't show the slightest interest in compromising away the Maine Woods or the wild island. The state

government's flimsy attempt to artificially separate construction of the port from the massive clearcutting that would follow (called "secondary impacts" in the regulations) didn't fly because the state had spent years explaining that they had to put the port on the island because no other location would be roomy enough for woodchip export. (Can't have it both ways! If the port is predicated on woodchip export, then clearcutting to supply the chips is a "reasonably anticipated secondary impact" and, as such, had to go into the Environmental Impact Statement.)

The unbending opposition of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Habitat Program (NMFS) was the final nail in the coffin. In the face of heavy political pressure to back off, NMFS held its ground and showed to the Corps that the project posed a severe threat to Maine's marine life, in violation of the Clean Water Act's prohibition against "significant degradation" of important spawning and nursery areas, especially those made up of submerged eelgrass meadow wetlands. (Fascinating stuff, actually. A flowering plant that gave up on the terrestrial world and migrated to life beneath the tideline, submerged flowers and all.)



Colonel Lawless of the Corps blew off the Maine Department of Marine Resources and Maine Department of Inland Fish and Wildlife's ridiculous polemics in favor of the port, and ordered the state to come up with a way to mitigate the trashing of a whole bay before proceeding any further. The governor looked at what it'd cost to do anything that had even a remote chance of getting past Earth First! and the feds and tossed his cookies. He got down on his knees in front of Bowater and the other timber beasts and begged them to throw their money into the pot. They contemptuously slammed the door in his face. The deal

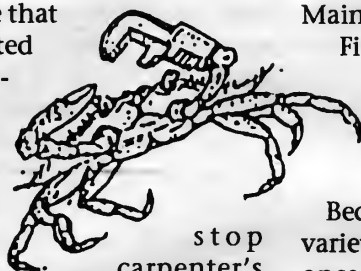
was for Governor King to sucker the public into subsidizing the chip port. Ask them for money? What gall! So, after that final dry heave, Governor King knew the jig was up, and pulled the plug on the awful GATT monster. A slender blade of eelgrass had defeated a dozen multinational-

als and their government puppets with a little help from its human friends in Earth First!

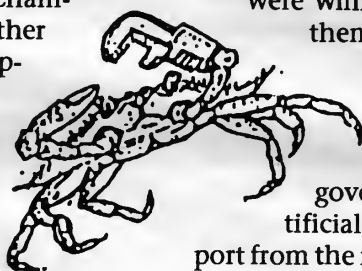
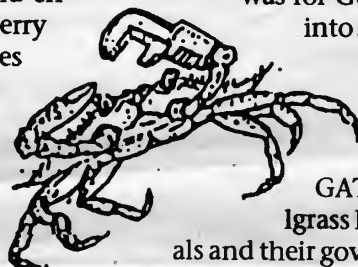
Now what?

The port is dead, dead, DEAD! But EPA New England Director John DeVillars, like the Sierra Club, has a serious case of Win-Win Fever. He, too, favors putting a GATT port on the mainland of Penobscot Bay, instead of the island, and boasted to the media that the permits for it could be gotten in a matter of weeks if the state wanted to go for it. Oh yeah?!?!? As the struggle in Maine showed, there's more than one way to sink a chip port!

If your stretch of the coast is facing threats from industry or development, send a SOS to Coastwatch! for aid and information (find Coastwatch! in the EF! Projects list on page 39). Not one more barnacle should fall to the coast-abusing bozos anywhere!



stop
carpenter's
was a big job-
removal machine and never let Governor Angus
"Jobs Jobs Jobs!" King off the hook for extreme
hypocrisy.



En Habes 1996

Fear and Loathing on the "Repeal the Rider" Campaign Trail

continued from front page

lobbyist Mark Rey, squaring off against Senator Murray, backed by Rey's former co-worker, industry lobbyist Marla Marvin, dueling about how much they'll do for the forests and local mills. Murray even blathered on about how the original rider wasn't fair to millworkers who needed "better than a few months fix." So she trumped Hatfield's one-year extension and proposed a three-year expedited timber salvage program. Idaho senator Dirk Kempthorne's ludicrous assertion that "salvage logging will save endangered species" went noticeably unchallenged. (Wouldn't want any rotten trees falling and crushing a grizzly now, would we?)

We know what full repeal would do. Not enough, that's for sure. It would simply restore the same tired set of laws that got us here in the first place. What exactly would Murray do? Even in defeat, it enshrined the concept of "salvage logging" forever, probably dooming the remnant old growth, as well as the forests of the Rockies, the Southwest and the Southeast. It merely shifted the cut volume around in the Westside forests by letting timber companies choose to trade old-growth sales for other sales or choose to be bought out of sales at a hefty profit should a sale be successfully challenged in court. (Hatfield's new rider allows them the choice without the trouble of a court case).

Just the Murray bill's stated purpose, "citizen participation in expedited salvage logging" says it all. Perhaps the worst of it is that if it had passed, when Bubba signed it he would claim that he'd saved the ancient forest—for the third time!—without actually having yet saved a single tree! The man really is Slick Willie! As it is, he'll probably veto the final bill with Hatfield's extensions because it's tied to a huge packet of pork that also contains some odious anti-choice and anti-education provisions. Look to Green Central to praise him and run another of their horrid "Thank you Mr. President" ads in the NY Times. Then, as before, once the unrelated objectionable parts are removed he'll jump to sign on.

The lies and omissions swirling around the whole "salvage" scam are plentiful. Leading up to Hatfield's rider success, we had Clinton claiming on June 7, 1995 when he first vetoed the bill, "Nobody has worked any harder than I have to start logging again in our country's forests...[but] suspending all the environmental laws of the country...is not the appropriate way." Two weeks later Bubba signed on to the exact same suspension of the laws.

When it became painfully clear that the rider was the last great buffalo hunt on our ancient forests, not to mention what it does to other regions of the continent, Clinton pleaded incompetence, that the administration was misled about the consequences of the rider, and that they never knew how much old growth the rider would doom. Any truth to that? Maybe the ineptitude part, but Architect of Extinction Hatfield says of his hours of discussion with White House chief of staff Leon Panetta, "We discussed it all thoroughly. They understood every detail in the bill." Hatfield and Panetta even discussed the ramifications (none) of finding murrelet egg shells on the ground—I'll say they went over it in detail. And, it's known that the administration was given an exact list of all 152 old-growth sales the rider would push forward. As one Democratic aide put it when asked about full repeal, "The rider is important, but they will not run over Hatfield."

Deal of Shame Deja Vu

The Environmental Land, Air and Water (LAW) Conference in Eugene, Oregon on March 7-10 provided a forum for debate on the Full Repeal abandonment and the Murray Salvage Logging sign on by the Pew contingent.

Andy Kerr, executive director of that law firm the Oregon Natural Resources Council (ONRC), defended the repeal capitulation by claiming "it gives us the right to sue." So what? We already know ONRC's modus operandi of eco-Catch-22. If they do sue and win an injunction, they rush to give up the injunction because it might lead to a rider that would obviate the right to sue. Ah, but you get to keep the attorney's fees.

While loudly, publicly protesting to the LAW Conference crowd that "I'm Pew-free" (as bold a reproach

of Pew as we'll get from Green Central) and claiming that he supports full repeal, Jim Jontz of the foundations' Western Ancient Forest Campaign (WAFRC) worked behind the scenes and sent out faxes on how to improve the Murray bill, including a letter of SUPPORT/concern. "I'm sick and tired of the grassroots undercutting me every time I turn around. If it happens again, I'm going to do some exposing of my own," said Jim "the Flasher" Jontz exposing his true opinion of grassroots politics to Tim Hermach of the Native Forest Council, a severe critic of the Murray sham.

How soon they forget. Last November, Mark Hubbard of ONRC, Kevin Kirchner of the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (SCLDF) and Jim Jontz chastised the administration and their helpmates for seeking the same sort of fix when they wrote, "by negotiating for modification of this outrageous legislation, you effectively endorse the provisions of the rider you do not change."

Repeal the
Rider!
Squawk!
Repeal the
Rider!

Here's what Mitch "best-dressed eco-activist" Friedman says of the WAFRC SUPPORT/concern letter that his and other foundation-sponsored groups signed on to: "NWEA (Northwest Ecosystems Alliance), along with a number of regional and national groups signed on to a letter... which expresses support, while also noting areas of concern. We have done so not in the spirit of compromise, but because we believe that it is on the whole a good bill... We also believe that it would not have a chance of passage unless conservation groups make it known to senators that this is a green vote." That surely must be because the esteemed senators would recognize it as the industry bill it is were it not for the coat of green paint applied by such "eco-defenders" as NWEA.

At least NWEA was a step above the Sierra Club who pledged support to Murray without any expression of concern or conditions.

Tough Talk

As the greenwash fails, more and more of Clinton's apologists strike back. Assistant Secretary of the Interior George Frampton recently told some SCLDF attorneys, "I'm tired of the Alliance [for the Wild Rockies] attacking us and if they don't get out of our way, we're going to destroy them." Perhaps "Wise Use" guru Ron Arnold may be right in his claims of Fish and Wildlife hit squads.

Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas weighed in with, "That fucking Jeff St. Clair (editor of *Wild Forest Review*). If I were a younger man I'd whip his ass." Just think if the rest of the community would stand up! Would these bullies dare speak like this if they actually knew that most of us feel like St. Clair and the Alliance activists?

Hero and Dupes

Not enough can be said of the heroic role played by Save America's Forests (SAF) in all of this. Immediately upon getting the odious provisions of the Murray bill, SAF published a critique and dropped it at congressional offices. It called it out for what it is—a bill that increases "salvage" logging (with a permanent timber salvage program), a bill that legislates Option 9 Probable Sale Quantities into timber quo-

tas, a bill that doesn't save a single acre of forests... Thanks to SAF, this bill has been exposed to the disinfecting properties of daylight. Of course, Gang Green is already blaming SAF for the defeat of the Murray's "green" bill.

In contrast to SAF, we had the same laundry list of losers pushing the Murray forest destruction/Clinton greenwash bill. These are the same folks who told us that the ancient forest would be saved when Hatfield was up for re-election in 1990. They told us that Option 9 was a "victory" that saved the ancient forests. They told us that the Deal of Shame release of sales from injunction would "save more trees than would be cut." They told us that the deal would prevent any new riders. And now some, like Bobcat of Headwaters, the group that begot "Forest Health" and "Partnerships" in the first place, tells us the Murray bill is "better than full repeal!" In actuality, there would have been wider spread damage to watersheds under Murray than under the odious Hatfield rider. More acres would have been cut to find the "replacement" volume.

How can we ever expect to be taken seriously enough to pass protection legislation when some "greens" cave so easily on defensive efforts like the rider repeal? Luckily for us, Hatfield wouldn't let Murray pass. If he was a tad smarter, he just might have let the Democrats pass it and put the onus on Gang Green. When Hatfield finally crushes repeal and extends his rider, he'll also have broken the "strong" Democrats like Furse and denied Clinton a little election year greenwashing. And, Clinton himself won't be all that sad to see a defeat pinned on the grassroots activists who rallied behind full repeal. If there's one thing they all fear, it's a vigorous grassroots.

The Timber Love-in

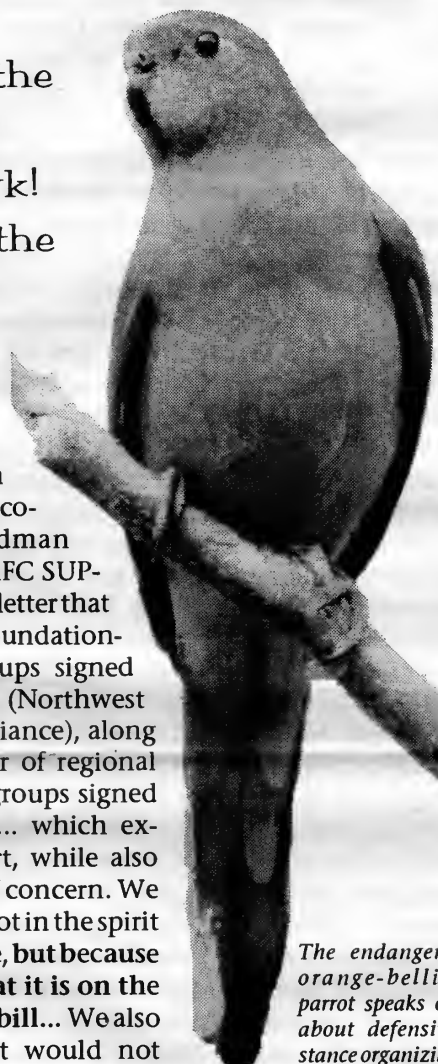
I've yet to mention the Seventh American Timber Congress held in DC recently, where less than one third of the "greens" in attendance voted in favor of a ban on further roading in national forests. At the very same time, thousands of existing Forest Service roads gave way in massive landslides depositing tons of silt in Northwest waterways, which caused \$60 million in road damage alone! The City of Salem, Oregon was put on mandatory water rationing for the first time, causing another \$10 million in losses to area businesses—no assessment yet of the salmon and other species' body count in the scoured and silt-choked streams.

That wasn't even the low point. Remember all those appeals from Pew for grassroots activists to attend? Remember the calls from Jim Jontz stating that if we didn't get a favorable vote on repeal "we'll walk, and we'll walk early." Well, repeal went down to a crushing defeat at this big timber love-fest, yet when real grassroots activists planned a walkout, they were chastised by the DC gang.

When the truncated walkout finally did come, not only did the DC gang stay, they booed Southwest activist Peter Galvin's podium announcement of the walkout and they tipped off security that the "radicals" were on their way to the press room. Paul Ketchum, of the injunction-surrendering group Portland Audubon and Board president of WAFRC, was widely quoted as saying, "We successfully marginalized the radicals." Think about it! How shameless can one be? He's given up injunctions, condemned thousands of acres of irreplaceable forests, condoned species extinction and hasn't saved a single tree but how proud he is of "marginalizing the radicals." Unbelievable!

What these groups really need most is a little grassroots sensibility, a little backbone and a lot of antidote to their bureaucratic urge to compromise. The Pew warriors think they know all there is to know about ecosystems and they think they know all there is to know about politics, which to them means statecraft and the manipulation of public opinion—in complete denial of their many devastating past errors.

Such hubris comes about as Starhawk has said, because, "There's a big difference between knowing and loving." It is the transcendent true "knowing" of oneness with life that requires that our work be an uncompromising act of love. That may sound a little woo woo and unusual coming from me, but Starhawk has defined not only the nature of the split in the movement, but the means by which we must carry on.



The endangered orange-bellied parrot speaks out about defensive-stance organizing.

ARMED WITH VISIONS

Clear as cut glass and just as dangerous

BURY MY HEART

17.04.92

Fluid thief Colorado
ferrying silt, carving rock,
spawning catclaw and catfish.

Shadowed symmetry
of subtle
lines latticed
on upcurved canyon walls;
sheerwall rising above
narrow plateaus
where ocotillos wave
twisted arms
and seep springs feed spraygrass.

Swallowtail butterflies flit
along porous lava, cracked crosscuts
slicing down to where light splays
on water, spangling above depths
where unslackened, the current
never rests.

Digging,
my fingers scratch away pebbles,
scoop out handfuls of sand and dirt
fashioning a place
for my heart,
covering it over,
letting soil work.

Nursed in cretaceous darkness,
roots tentacle out to pierce
close-molecule masks of stone.
Man earth, earth man,
skin dissolved, flesh gone,
bones sinking into a lost sea,
into sacred ribbons of water
chattering off the backs of mountains,
licking the wounds of the earth,
folding and unfolding her seasons
like pages of a book
we
have
forgotten
how
to
read.

—Bob Finkbine

Send Poems to:
Warrior Poets Society
ASUC Box 361
Berkeley, CA 94720-4510
all rights reserved to the authors

For Corey Duncan

A sacred fire burns at the House of Himwitsa,
Those close to you grieve, remember your music,
mourn your passing.
Corey loved deeply the lush rainforest and people of
Bella Coola.
He remains with us now as he was once by the
campfire, singing.

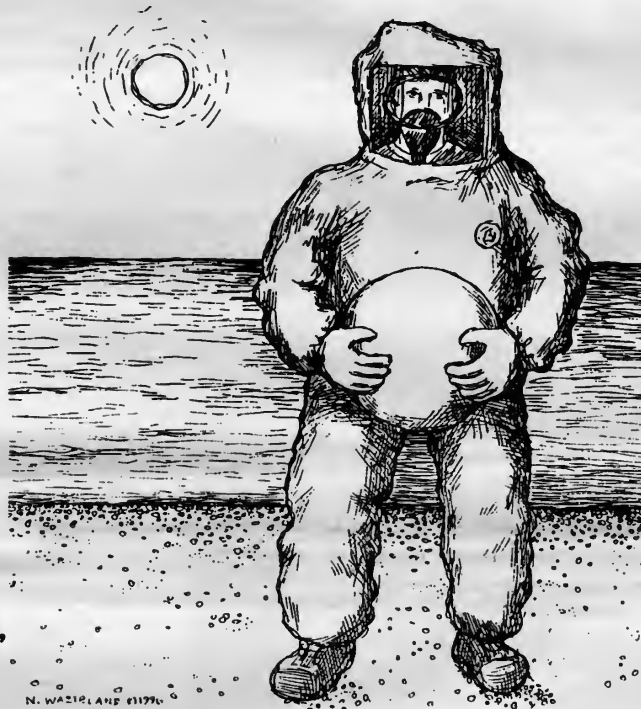
May his memory and presence stir our love for creation,
And rage against Interfor in defense of our relations.

—Al Decker

Daffodils, spring beauty, robins
Peepers singing in Redwings
Bloodroot buds wrapped in rubbery cloak
leaves
Woodchucks on every acre hungrily
Hepatica as blue as a dream of heaven
Last year's oriole nest
Beckons like a bucket in the well of life

—Jenny McBride

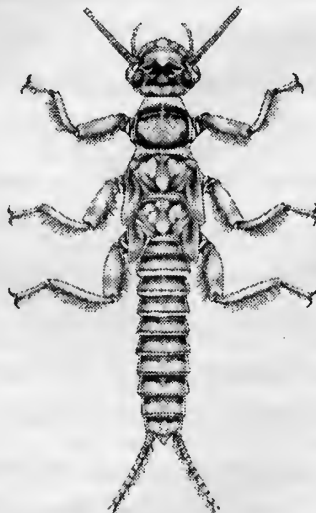
"A DAY AT THE BEACH"



ORDER WITHIN/ORDER WITHOUT

there are pieces of our minds
we forgot,
lying highwayside—
shreds of black plastic
on barbed wire.

—christien gholson



Cultus aestivalis, (Plecoptera)
Grand County, Colorado River

LEAKS

for 2 1/2 minutes radioactive steam
spews from nuclear power plant
outside Rochester, NY.
emergency quickly demoted to alert.
area citizens assured
no cause for alarm.

how many times can they say that?

I never did well in science
but logic tells me
radioactive steam cannot possibly escape
without contaminating a few trees
along Lake Ontario or
misting over neighborhood windows.

miniature nuclear wars
jotted down in each plant's log
go unnoticed.
cancer rates increase
miscarriages and mutations.
because there are no news bulletins
interrupting sit-coms
dinner vibrates in microwave oven as usual.
electric bill gets paid.

in every child's prayer
a plea for protection
no nuclear war
never a word about leaks.

—Sallie Ehrman

FEVER SCENT

Pearly white and first leaf green,
peach blush near center,
dogwood calyx dropping.
Peppermint striped spring beauties
flounce like uppity Scarlett O'Haras
in a cinnamon breeze.
Crave all attention and promise,
tomorrow is another day.

Blood rush.
Full moon is gone
but madness lingers on.
No padded room can hold
these saturated senses.
Dog nose twitching
layered scents
only colorblind can see.
Run back and forth
on the trail of
something
important.

It's time, it's time!
Does anyone not see?
The season shed its dormancy.
New skin pinks out.
Oh! Sensitive,
it wields all thought and then some.
Touch consciousness to grindstone
and sharpen to a whining pitch
of first mosquito down in old knot hole,
so many more to follow.

Ramps are a garlic-onion Blessing Way
to cleanse the spirit of winter's lethargy
and lean the blood.
A sensuous energy,
a fever,
of spring.

—Sam Chamberlain
1994

Announcements → ★ →



Free Arcata Festival

Join our band of happy, ragged folk on California's north coast for a three-day celebration of Arcata's growing eco-activist and anarchist community. Events include speakers, live music, workshops, non-violence training, poetry, daily community dinners, barter fair, actions and general mischief.

A May 3 concert features Casey Neill, Robert Hoyt, Leslie Hemstreet and Seth. The full-moon weekend lies on the anniversary of the Haymarket Affair and the Kent State Massacre.

Call (707) 441-6470 or write to: Free Arcata Festival, POB 4733, Free Arcata, CA 95518 to receive an info. booklet/schedule. The soon-to-be autonomous community of Free Arcata is 280 miles north of San Francisco and 150 miles south of Grants Pass, OR.



CAMPFIRE POETRY BOOK

We are now taking submissions for **EARTH FIRST! CAMPFIRE POEMS**. **EARTH FIRST!** because hardcore biocentric. **CAMPFIRE** because able to be read around the campfire; humor and drama a help. We also need graphics and donations (\$\$) to help get this project off the ground. **SO PLEASE SUBMIT**, if you enjoy the pleasures of the spoken word, if you're a believer in the power of poetry to change things, to make a difference, **CONTRIBUTE!** Send poems, graphics, donations to **EARTH FIRST! CAMPFIRE POEMS** c/o Dennis Fritzinger, ASUC Box 361, Berkeley, CA 94720-4510.

Gila Forest Encampment!

Eagle Peak Gathering—May 10 and 11

The Southwest Center for Biological Diversity is planning an encampment to block attempts by the Gila National Forest to log the HB Salvage Sale in the Eagle Peak Roadless Area. We're going to kick off the encampment with a gathering on Eagle Peak May 10 and 11. Come self-sufficient as possible and ready to take to the woods.

The Forest Service has tried to cut this roadless area before but they were stopped by a massive public outcry. We still have hopes of stopping this project through political pressure or litigation, but direct action looks like our best hope. The timber beasts down here won't buy the trees after this summer so we just have to hold them off until the snow flies in the high country or they get sick of us and decide to go home.

For more info, contact SWCBD, POB 102, Pinos Altos, NM 88053; (505) 388-8799, fax (505) 388-0666.

End Corporate Dominance of the Earth!

"The earth isn't dying. It's being killed, and the people killing it have names and addresses."—Utah Phillips

He also sang "Dump the Bosses Off Your Backs," and that is what we intend to do on May 20. The time has come to draw the connection between all of our campaigns on environmental issues, all the battles in our individual neighborhoods—that connecting thread, that common enemy being corporate greed!

We hatched a plan at the Activist Conference to coordinate actions nationally against corporate destruction of the earth. We need to challenge the prevailing view that we are somehow stuck with the power that corporations wield. The plan involves compiling and conducting research on a "dirty dozen" corporations, sharing that information and launching campaigns against those targets. We need YOU! Your ideas, your organizing, your participation, and your body when May 20 rolls around, but there's a lot to do in the meantime. The End Corporate Dominance Working Group formed in February and has a snail mail and e-mail address. We need to identify contacts all over the country NOW, to get in on the ground floor organizing for this major action. It should be a boost to everyone's campaign everywhere and a good way to connect campaigns.

We want to make this a coalition effort, reaching out to labor, social change and human rights groups, but with Earth First! spearheading it with a strong biocentric message. Dump the corporations off Mother Earth's back!

Contact Oregon Project, c/o Blue Mts. Biodiversity Project, HCR 82, Fossil, OR 97830; (408) 425-4422; e-mail: earthfirst@igc.apc.org (Subject: end corp dom).



WALK FOR THE EARTH

Join thousands of people across the US at an Earth Day walk taking place April 19-22 in all 50 states. To learn more, call the National Parks and Conservation Association at 1-800-NAT-PARK, ext. 225.

WE NEED YOUR HELP ON BIG MOUNTAIN!

Now is a crucial time to build trust between outside supporters and traditional Dineh people resisting relocation. Peabody Coal's mine is moving closer and the traditional people in Black Mesa are being threatened with forced displacement. The groundwater is contaminated and drying up; the people, plants and animals are sick from side-effects of the mine. A strong court case has business interests on edge.

The families resisting relocation are the stronghold against the mine. They need us to come out and help with daily chores. Assisting elders, watching kids, herding sheep, chopping wood, cooking and cleaning are some of the tasks. They also need us to document harassment by government officials as well as deter it with our presence. For homestays, come for one week minimum. Come in pairs, with a vehicle and be self-sufficient. Please contact **BIG MOUNTAIN DIRECT SUPPORT** at POB 1891, Tuscon, AZ, 85702 or call (520) 629-0855. In the Pacific Northwest, contact POB 11715, Eugene, OR 97450 or call (541) 341-3851 to find out more about a caravan in May.

STOP FORCED RELOCATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES!

Zero Extract National Day of Action

For those people who think all we do at Activist Conferences is have endless meetings, this year we planned actions instead! I would like to announce the exciting new EarthFirst! Zero Commercial/Corporate Extraction from Public and other Non-Private Lands Campaign (that's "EF!ZC/CEfPaoN-PLC" or "Zero Extract" or even "Ø Xtract" for short). Our first action is on April 20/21 to coincide with Earth Day and John Muir's birthday. (Zero commercial extraction and non-private lands were specified to include corporate abuse of Native lands.)

Potential actions include blockades, banner hangings, street theater, educational outreach, press releases, posters, etc. Feel free to do whatever you like. All we are suggesting is that our message for Earth

Day in the USA might be to clean up our own act before we tell other countries what to do. Zero extraction off public lands would be a great place for us to start.

Zero Cut is not enough! We want an end to all commercial/corporate mining, drilling, harvesting, dumping and grazing, just to start. Native and public lands are not for private financial profit. It's as simple as that.

We are compiling a small packet of information containing a list of reasons why we simply just can't continue to let profiteers pillage public and Native lands. Please write, fax or e-mail us with your ideas and to receive a packet. (Please specify Zero Extract.)

Contact Ø Xtract, EF!J, POB 1415, Eugene, OR 97440; fax (541) 741-9191; e-mail: earthfirst@igc.apc.org.

NW Regional Rendezvous May 10-13

Cascadia Forest Defenders Unite!

With the onslaught of logging without laws, we are seeing a redoubling of destruction throughout our bioregion. Warner Creek, Headwaters, Cove/Mallard, the Umpqua, Bella Coola, the Blue Mountains, the Olympics, the list goes on and on. It's time to regroup, strengthen our community, and work together to defend our native forests. Come learn about other campaigns, share stories and skills, and RELAX! Visit beautiful North Cascadia, home of big trees and famous birds.

Breaking with tradition, this rendezvous will be drug and alcohol-free. Alcohol has lead to the down-fall of other radical movements and is historically a tool of oppression. We, therefore, respectfully request four days of sobriety in the spirit of impassioned activism. Save your brews until after the 'vous. We will be hosting a party on Monday night to celebrate a year of hard work.

For more information contact Olympia Earth First! at POB 10024 Olympia, WA 98502; phone (360) 352-6521.

NO NUKES!

The United States is planning to resume nuclear weapons testing. A sub-critical explosion (where the force of the nuclear explosion is equal to or less than the force of the explosion of the triggering device used) has been set for June 18, 1996, at the Nevada Test Site. Back country direct-action groups are now forming. For more information call (805) 948-6291, or write to: Nuclear-Free Planet, P.O. Box 492, Lancaster, CA, 93584-0492.

NO NUKE DUMP!

The Ward Valley Coalition was formed in response to a proposed radioactive waste dump in southeastern California. This is habitat for the threatened desert tortoise. A recent federal decision has delayed, but not stopped plans for this dump. The Coalition will hold a spring gathering April 11 - 15 in Needles, California to celebrate the Mojave Desert and to plan for future actions. For more information on this gathering or the ongoing efforts to stop the Ward Valley Radioactive Waste Dump, call (619) 326-6267 or (415) 752-8678 or (714) 547-6282 or (800) 326-6267.

Salvage Mania/Forest Health Week (May 13-17)

Last year the Native Forest Network organized a successful day of action against the pulp and paper industry. In the same spirit, we and other grassroots groups are now initiating another event focused on countering the Salvage Rider and exposing the phony arguments associated with forest health. Forest health, essentially the belief that we are protecting our forest to death, is just the latest excuse by the US Forest Service and timber industry to log our ancient forests, our intact watersheds, our roadless areas, and our regenerating forests managed by state and federal agencies. Our ecosystems are indeed in trouble due to extensive logging and roadbuilding, overgrazing, huge gold and silver mines and subdivisions. The trees that are still standing are not sick but still evolving according to natural ecological processes.

It is imperative that our movement rally around the forests that were set aside in the public trust. These are where almost all of the 5 to 10 percent of original forests left in the US are found. It's time for all groups and individuals to start facing some of these timber sales on the ground.

To plug into this week of actions, there are many different approaches to consider, ranging from media field tours, aerial overflights, educational presentations, forest monitoring expeditions, press conferences, public rallies, political protests and/or direct action involving nonviolent civil disobedience.

The message we wish to convey is, "The Forest Service and the timber industry have done an end around the environmental movement in a last gasp attempt to turn our remaining native forests into industrial tree farms.

FREEDMENSTOWN SQUATTERS FESTIVAL

Food Not Bombs (FNB) and the Allen Parkway Village Residents Council (APVRC) are hosting a regional FNB gathering in Freedmenstown April 27 through May 2nd. The Freedmenstown Squatter Festival will feature, among other things, concerts, workshops, squatter actions, guerrilla theater, womyn spaces, micro powered radio, guerrilla gardening, a May Day parade, EF!, Anarchy Ale and whatever else we collectively decide to do....

Freedmenstown was founded by former slaves right after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation in 1861. The land was a large tract of "worthless" swamp land allotted to the free men (and womyn). In an ironic twist of fate it is now worth tens of millions of dollars and the white man wants it back!!

Freedmenstown borders Downtown Houston, the exclusive River Oaks and memorial areas, the heights, and the newly gentrified Montrose Area. Developers on all sides of the besieged neighborhood are just drooling over the prospect of leveling the historical district to build high-rise condos for the yuppies who work downtown. Most of the opposition has come from the APVRC who have been able to keep the bulldozers out of the neighborhood, despite the efforts of the often hostile government and businesses who pull the strings.

The APVRC has agreed to help FNB facilitate the gathering by letting us have it at project. There are hundreds of empty apartment units on the sight that can be squatted, and there are many large open spaces to use for massive "tent cities." We have also secured the use of the community center (which has a large concert space, several smaller meeting rooms and kitchen facilities) and the outdoor mini-amphitheater.

HELP US BUILD A COOPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH!

For more information, contact Houston FNB, POB 981101, Houston TX, 77098.

SEND SHELL TO HELL DAY— MAY 1—

The Send Shell to Hell Alliance has called for an international day of action aimed against Shell. Shell must be made to pay for the death of Ken Saro-Wiwa. Ken, a committed environmentalist and human rights activist, opposed Shell's exploitation of his region, Ogoniland, and the repressive Nigerian Government. We now call upon all ELF, Eco-terra-ist, Autonomist, and revolutionary groups to target Shell on May 1, doing as much damage as possible, with the aim of forcing it to shut down its operations in all Nigeria. We are fighting all multi-nationals, so let's start knocking them down one by one. Potential targets are petrol stations, offices or bill-boards. Let's put Shell out of business!

Remember: no injury to life—only loss of profits!

REMEMBER KEN SARO-WIWA!

\$\$\$



WALL RALLY APRIL 20

Witnesses against Lawless Logging (WALL), a people's group working toward organizing resistance against lawless logging in the Northwest, is currently mounting a major outreach, grassroots campaign to substantially increase the resistance by mid-April when "Ancient Forest Week" is being organized to kick off the spring offensive to derail the Salvage Rider. We envision a whole week of forest-related events and a major protest rally on April 20. For more info, contact OWF/WALL, POB 5878, Portland, OR 97228

WALL HOTLINE
(800) 283-5926

We are asserting our right to protect all remaining native forests on public land for the maintenance of biological diversity, spiritual and environmental health, stable economies, and our cultural sanity."

Despite the current political picture and the upper hand of the forest products industry, all is not lost! Given these circumstances, we reckon that it's time for the environmental movement to reverse the tide while the industry, Congress and the Clinton Administration continue to underestimate us. So if you or your organization wants to go on the offensive this spring, please contact the Native Forest Network's office in Missoula to get involved.

Native Forest Network, POB 8251, Missoula, MT 59807; phone (406) 542-7343, fax 542-7347; nfnconferenc@igc.apc.org.

EARTH FIRST! PROFITS LAST!

SPECIAL TREE MIX

MUSIC REVIEW BY LESLIE HEMSTREET

Do you reel from anger? Do you find the hurt inside you leaking out? Do you need an outlet for your rage? Political punkers in TREE could answer yes to all of those questions. With their tape *Earth First! Profits Last!* they have come up with a salve for the symptoms and a path to the antidote.

"Hardcore" is a word often used to describe both activism and music but usually in separate contexts. TREE are hard-core about both. The album roars into full crank with a chainsaw rip at the beginning, and does not stop. This album motivated me to learn how to slam dance solo using special body contortions. And even though the lyrics are shouted in the classic punk style, I was able to understand almost every word. For those I couldn't understand, I read the lyric sheet. (Don't you feel robbed when

you buy a record that doesn't include the lyrics?)

Of course, that's all just style stuff anyway. What really smokes about this record is the substance. No vapid love songs, no pop "crossover" tunes and no apologies taint this record. It's all political all the time, and when it does wax personal, it keeps its social context, as in the song "Any Dog." The words are: "Any dog can fuck/why that is why/making love/I like creating love/I like to create." I don't mind the word "fuck" to describe sex like they seem to, but I still think this song is funny.

With an album title like *Earth First! Profits Last!*, naturally they are going to have songs about the environment. "Don't Chop Me Down," "Pay," "Put the Wood to Her" and "Whales" all scream for the earth. These songs are not hopeful pretty little piles of fluff. This ain't no "Rocky Mountain High." The songs encourage you to ACT.

"Put the Wood To Her" kind of raised my hackles the first time I heard it because it talks very sarcastically about making love to and raping Mother Earth. I think people sometimes bandy about the concept of rape too lightly without really thinking about, not only what it means, but how it feels. After listening a few times through, though, I realize that they feel so much pain that rape must be something they can empathize about.

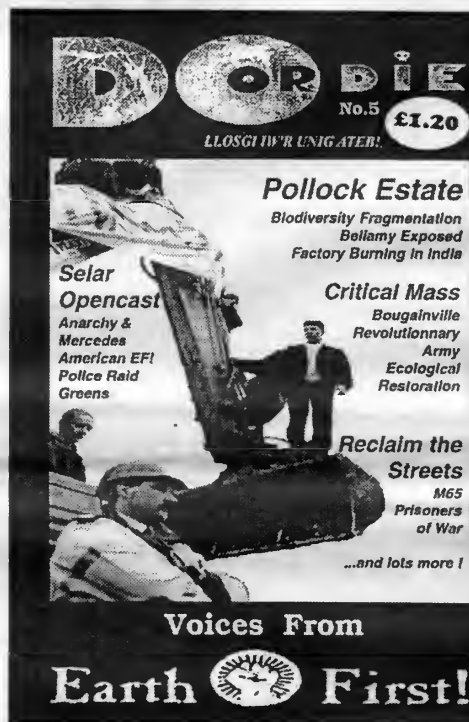
The record is not limited to one political issue either. They sing about elements of a whole movement, a complete revolution, with songs about the working class, police abuse, squatters' rights and AIDS.

The most pee-your-pants funny song on the whole album is "Negative Hippie." It's a little musical history lesson that starts out: "This is going out to the baby boomers and all the past generations that have compromised our future with their greed. But this is especially go-



ing out to the hippies for selling out and turning into yuppies. For stealing all the money, doing all the drugs and having all the sex, spreading the disease and then handing me the bill. Your time has come! Aquarius..."

It's nice to hear somebody else screaming for a change because sometimes I get laryngitis and need to just listen. To sum up my feelings about this record: If I were a dog I'd be rolling in it because it stinks that good. And remember it's sold only through the *EF! Journal*. (See the page on your right.)



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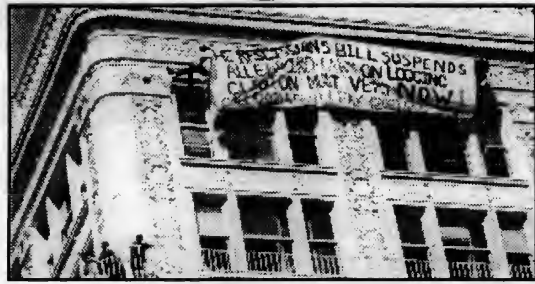
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